Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-235
Friday
8 December 1989

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FBIS-LAT-89-235 *8 December 1989*

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Cuba

Castro Honors Internationalists, Views Socialism

FL0812030289 Havana Domestic Radio and Television Services in Spanish 2115 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Speech by President Fidel Castro during ceremony honoring Cuban internationalists fallen in Angola; at El Cacahual Mausoleum in Havana—live]

[Text] Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and other guests, relatives of those fallen, combatants, compatriots: The date on which the most illustrious of our soldiers, Antonio Maceo, fell with his young aide, is always very significant for all Cubans. His remains lie here in this sacred corner of the fatherland. In selecting this date to bury the remains of our heroic internationalist combatants fallen in various parts of the world, mainly in Africa, where the forefathers of Maceo and a substantial part of our blood came from, 7 December will turn into a remembrance day of all Cubans who gave their lives not only in defense of their fatherland but also of humankind.

In this way, patriotism and internationalism, two of the most beautiful values man has been capable of creating, will unite forever in the Cuban history. Perhaps a monument honoring all of them will be erected not far from here someday. The remains of the internationalists who fell in the fulfillment of their noble and glorious mission are being buried simultaneously at this time. The imperialist enemy thought we would hide the casualties in Angola, of the longest and most complex mission, already 14 years old, as if this were a dishonor or a stain on the revolution. They have hoped for a long time that the blood spilled would be useless, as if he who dies for a just cause were to die in vain.

If victory alone, however, were the vulgar stick to measure the value of the sacrifice of men in their just fights, they have returned with victory. The Spartans used to say: With the shield or on the shield. Our victorious troops returned with the shield. It is not our intention at this solemn time to boast of our successes or to humiliate anyone, not even those who were our adversaries. Our country was not looking for military glory or prestige. The principle of achieving the goals with the least sacrifice of lives possible was always strictly applied. To achieve this, it was necessary to be strong, to act with the maximum cold blood, and always be—as we always were—willing to do anything.

Each combatant knew that the entire country was behind him. He also knew that the life and health of each one of them was a constant concern of all of us. There were no doubts about using political and diplomatic ways when politics and diplomacy were feasible factors in reaching the final goals. Even though we always acted with all the necessary firmness, at no time during the negotiating process did we utter an arrogant, prepotent, or boasting word. We were flexible when flexibility was appropriate and just.

The last stage of the war in Angola was the most difficult one. It required all the determination, tenacity, and fighting spirit of our country in support of our Angolan brothers. The revolution did not hesitate to risk everything in fulfilling that solidarist duty, not only with Angola but with our own combatants who were fighting there under difficult conditions. When the imperialist threats against our county were too great, we did not hesitate to send many of our most modern and best combat equipment to the southern front of the People's Republic of Angola.

Over 50,000 Cuban combatants gathered then in that sister nation. This was truly impressive if one considers the distance that has to be traveled, the size and resources of our country. It was a true feat of our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces and of our people. Such a page of altruism and international solidarity has been written a few times. This is why we appreciate Jose Eduardo dos Santo's presence in this event so much. It was an absolutely spontaneous gesture. He told us: I want to be with you in this moment. Ethiopia, the South-West African People's Organization, and other countries and revolutionary organizations also spontaneously stated that they wanted to be with us, as soon as they learned just a few days ago that we would bury the internationalists fallen in Africa and other lands in our fatherland today.

There are historic events that nothing and nobody will be able to erase. There are revolutionary examples that the best men and women of future generations, inside and outside our fatherland, will not be able to forget. This is one of them. However, we are not the ones who should assess it. History will do it.

We cannot forget for a moment that our comrades in arms were the heroic combatants of the Angolan Armed Forces. They offered the lives of dozens of thousands of the best children of that extraordinary country. Unity and the closest cooperation between them and us made the victory possible. We also had the honor of fighting next to the courageous children of Namibia, the patriots from Guinea-Bissau, and the unsurpassable Ethiopian soldiers. Years before, during the difficult days of Algeria, soon after independence was reached, our internationalist combatants were next to it as they later were together with Syria, another Arab country victimized by foreign attacks that requested our cooperation.

There was no just cause in Africa that did not have the support of our people. Che Guevara, accompanied by a numerous group of Cuban revolutionaries, fought against white mercenaries east of what is today Zaire. Doctors and teachers are now providing their generous and disinterested services in the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, this country that is fighting for its freedom. All of the countries mentioned were or are today independent and those who are not yet will be independent sooner or later. A brilliant solidarity page was written in a few years. Our people are proud of it.

Also, men from various countries fought together with us in our struggle for independence. The most illustrious of all, Maximo Gomez, born in Santo Domingo, came to be the chief of our liberating army because of his extraordinary merits. During the years prior to our revolution, 1,000 Cubans organized by the first communist party fought in Spain defending the Republic. They wrote unerasable pages of heroism, which the pen of Pablo de la Torriente Brau gathered for history until death in combat cut short the life of the brilliant revolutionary journalist.

This is how our gallant internationalist spirit, which reached its highest summit with the socialist revolution, was formed. Everywhere Cuban internationalists went, they were example of respect to the dignity and sovereignty of the country. The trust gained in the heart of those peoples is not by chance. It was the fruit of their irreproachable behavior. This is why the memory of our exemplary unselfishness and altruism remained everywhere.

A prominent African leader once said at a meeting of leaders of the region: The Cuban combatants are willing to sacrifice their lives for the liberation of our peoples, and, in exchange for that cooperation to attain our freedom and the progress for our population, the only thing they will take from us are the combatants who fell fighting for freedom. A continent that experienced centuries of exploitation and looting knew how to fully appreciate the altruism of our internationalist gesture.

Our experienced troops return victorious today. Joyous, happy, proud faces of mothers, wives, brothers, children, and of the entire people receive them with warmth and emotion. Peace was reached honorably and the fruits of the sacrifice and effort were more than reached. The constant concern over the fate of our men in combat, thousands of kilometers from their land, no longer perturbs our sleeps.

The enemy believed that the return of our combatants would provoke a social problem, because we would not have jobs for them. Before leaving the fatherland, most of these men—in addition to the military cadres—had jobs in their fatherland and they are returning to those jobs or to better ones. Not a single one has been forgotten. Many times, they knew ahead of time what their task would be before arriving in the fatherland. Not a single one of those young servicemen, who had recently left middle schools, who voluntary asked for the honor to fulfill an internationalist mission in Angola, has had to wait to occupy a worthy place in the classrooms or among the files or our working people.

Our fatherland is working hard in ambitious economic and social development programs. It is not guided by the irrational laws of capitalism, and has a place in study, production, or services for each child of the country. No relative of those who fell during their fulfillment of their mission or those who suffered serious injuries was forgotten. They received, receive, and will continue receiving all the attention and consideration deserved by the noble sacrifice of their loved ones and their own unselfish, altruistic, and generous behavior to the point of heroism.

The hundreds of thousands Cubans who fulfilled internationalist military or civilian missions will always have the respect of present and future generations. They multiplied many times the glorious combative and internationalist traditions of our people. The fatherland they find upon their return is involved in a titanic struggle for development; at the same time, it continues facing the criminal imperialist blockade with exemplarly dignity.

To this we must add the crisis that erupted in the socialist world, from which we can only expect negative economic consequences for our country. What is being talked about now in the majority of those countries is not precisely about the imperialist struggle and about the principles of internationalism . These words are not even mentioned in their press. Such concepts are virtually erased from the political dictionary there.

In contrast, capitalist values are gaining unusual strength in those societies. Capitalism means unequal trade with Third World countries, exaltation of individual selfishness and national chauvinism, the empire of irrationality and anarchy in investment and production, and ruthless sacrifice of the peoples to blind economic laws. It is the empire of the strongest, the exploitation of man by man, every man is for himself.

In the social order, capitalism implies many other things; prostitution, drugs, gambling, begging, unemployment, abysmal inequality between citizens, depletion of natural resources, poisoning of the atmosphere, seas, rivers, forests, and especially the looting of underdeveloped countries by industrialized capitalist countries.

In the past, it meant colonialism, and, in the present it means the neocolinization of billions of human beings through more sophisticated economic and political methods that are also less costly, more effective, and ruthless. Capitalism, its market economy, its values, its categories, and its methods can never be the instruments to take socialism away from its current problems and rectify the mistakes that may have been made. A good part of those problems came about not only because of the mistakes made but also from the strict blockade and the isolation socialist countries were submitted to by imperialism and the capitalist superpowers that monopolized almost all the wealth and the most advanced technologies. This was a result of the looting of the colonies, the exploitation of its labor class, and the massive brain theft from countries that were about to develop.

Devastating wars, which cost millions of lives, the destruction of the vast majority of the accumulated productive means, were unleashed against the first socialist state. Like the Phoenix, it had to remerge from its ashes more than once. It rendered services to humankind such as defeating fascism and decisively boosting

the liberation movement of countries that were still colonized. All this wants to be forgotten today.

It is disgusting that many in the USSR are dedicating themselves to denying and destroying the historic feat and the extraordinary merits of that heroic people. This is not the way to rectify and overcome the unquestionable mistakes made in a revolution that was born in czarist authoritarianism, in a huge, backward, and poor country. Now it is not possible to try to collect from Lenin the price for having carried out the biggest revolution in history in the old Russia of the czars.

This is why we have not hesitated to stop the circulation of certain Soviet publications that are filled with poison against the USSR itself and socialism. It is perceived that the hand of imperialism, reactionaries, and counterrevolution is behind them.

Some of those publications have begun to ask for the end of the equal and just trade that was created between the USSR and Cuba during the course of the Cuban revolutionary process. In two words, they ask that the USSR begin to practice unequal trade with Cuba by selling at a higher and higher price and buying our agricultural products and raw material at a cheaper and cheaper price. This is exactly what the United States does with Third World countries. Ultimately, they ask that the USSR join in the Yankee blockade against Cuba.

The systematic destruction of socialist values, the sapping work carried out by imperialism together with the mistakes that have been made have accelerated the destabilization process of socialist countries in Eastern Europe. The differentiated policy with each country and the idea of undermining socialism from within was the strategy the United States has been planned and following for a long time.

Imperialism and the capitalist superpowers cannot hide their euphoria over these events. They are persuaded, not without reason, that the socialist camp is virtually nonexistent at this time. Currently, there are entire teams of Americans in some of those Eastern European countries, including advisers to the U.S. President, planning the capitalist development. In recent days, a news dispatch brought the news that they were fascinated with the exciting experience. One of them, as a matter of fact a U.S. Government official, favored the application in Poland of a plan similar to the New Deal [preceding two words in English], by which Roosevelt attempted to soften the great crisis of capitalism, to help the 600,000 Polish workers who will be left without jobs in 1990 and half of the 17.8 million workers the country has who will have to be retrained and change jobs as a result of the development of a market economy.

Imperialism and the NATO capitalist superpowers are persuaded, and not without reason, that the Warsaw Pact no longer exists at this time, and it is not only fiction that corrupted societies, undermined from within, would be incapable of resisting.

It has been said that socialism should be improved. Nobody can oppose this principle that is inherent to and applies constantly to every human work. But, can socialism be improved by abandoning the most elementary Marxist-Leninist principles?

Why do the so-called reforms have to have a capitalist direction? If such ideas had a revolutionary character, as some are trying to say, why do they receive the unanimous overexcited support of imperialist leaders? In an unusual statement, the U.S. President called himself the number one defender of the doctrines that are currently being applied in many socialist countries. Never in history would a truly revolutionary idea have received the enthusiastic support of the chief of the most powerful, aggressive, and voracious empire humankind has known.

As a result of Comrade Gorbachev's visit to Cuba in April this year, during which we held intense and sincere exchanges, we publicly expressed at the National Assembly our idea that the right of any socialist country to build capitalism should be respected, if this is what the country wanted. Likewise, we demanded the strictest respect for the right for any capitalist country to build socialism. We believe that a revolution cannot be imported or exported. A socialist state cannot be founded through artificial insemination or simple embryo transplants. A revolution needs the proper conditions to exist within a society. Each country needs to be its own creator. These ideas are not incompatible with the solidarity revolutionaries can and should have with each other.

Likewise, a revolution is a process which can go forward or backward. It can even be thwarted. Above all, however, a communist has to be courageous and revolutionary. The duty of communists is to fight under any circumstance, no matter how adverse the situation may be. The Paris commoners knew how to fight and die defending their ideas. The banners of the revolution and socialism are not handed over without a fight. Only cowards and demoralized people surrender. Communists and revolutionaries do not surrender.

Imperialism is now inviting European socialist countries to receive their surpluses of capital, to develop capitalism, and to participate in the looting of Third World countries. I have learned that a large part of the developed capitalist world's wealth comes from unequal trade with those countries. For centuries they looted them as simple colonies. They enslaved hundreds of millions of their children. In many cases they exhausted their reserves of gold, silver, and other minerals. They exploited them without mercy and they imposed underdevelopment on them.

This was the most direct and evident consequence of colonialism. Now they impoverish them through the interests of an endless and unpayable debt. They snatch their basic goods at miserable prices. They export their

industrial goods at higher and higher prices. They constantly take away their financial and human resources through the flight of capital and brains. They block their trade through dumping [preceding word in English], tariffs, import quotas, replacing goods with synthetic ones produced by their high technology, and subsidize products when they are not competitive.

Now imperialism wants the East European socialist countries to join in the colossal looting. This apparently does not bother the theorists of capitalist reforms one bit. This is why in many of those countries nobody mentions the Third World's tragedy, and the unhappy crowds are geared toward capitalism and anticommunism and in one of them toward pan-Germanism. Such development of events could even lead to fascist currents.

The reward imperialism is offering them is a share of the looting of our peoples, the only way for consumerist capitalist societies to survive. The United States and the capitalist powers are now much more interested in investing in East Europe than elsewhere in the world. What resources could the Third World—where thousands of millions of people live under inhuman conditions —expect from such a development of events?

They talk to us about peace, but what kind of peace are they talking about? Of peace between the superpowers, while imperialism reserves the right to openly intervene in and to attack Third World countries. We have sufficient proof of this.

The imperialist U.S. Government demands that everyone refrain from aiding the Salvadoran revolutionaries and seeks to blackmail the USSR by demanding that it stop every form of economic and military aid to Nicaragua and to Cuba because we are in solidarity with the Salvadoran revolutionaries, despite the fact that we strictly comply with our obligations regarding the arms supplied by the USSR, conforming to the agreements signed between sovereign nations.

For its part, that very imperialist government that demands that every form of solidarity with the Salvadoran revolutionaries be discontinued is helping a genocidal government and is sending special combat units to El Salvador; it is supporting the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries; it organizes coups d'etat in Panama and the murder of Panamanian leaders; it provides military aid to UNITA in Angola, despite the successful peace accords in southwestern Africa; and it continues to supply large quantities of arms to the Afghan rebels, thus showing complete disregard for the withdrawal of Soviet troops and the Geneva agreements.

Just a few days ago, U.S. war planes brazenly intervened in the domestic conflict in the Philippines. Regardless of the just or unjust motives of the insurgents, which is not for us to judge, the U.S. intervention in that country has been extremely serious and truly reflects that current world situation. This is the police role the United States reserves for itself not only regarding Latin America, which it has always regarded as its backyard, but regarding every Third World country.

The adoption by a great power of the principle of universal intervention signifies the end to independence and sovereignty in the world. What peace and security can our peoples expect other than what we ourselves are capable of heroically conquering. It would be wonderful to get rid of nuclear arms. If this were not just a utopian idea and could some day be achieved, it would be undoubtedly beneficial and would improve security, but it would only benefit part of mankind. This would not bring peace, security, or hope to Third World countries. Imperialism does not need nuclear arms to attack our peoples. Its powerful fleet distributed around the world, its military bases everywhere, and its increasingly sophisticated and deadly conventional arms suffice to enable it to perform its role as master and policeman of the world.

Besides, 40,000 children die every day in the world. These children could be saved, but they are not saved because of poverty and underdevelopment. As we have said time and again, and it is proper to repeat today, it is as though a bomb like those of Hiroshima and Nagasaki exploded among the poor children around the world every 3 days.

If events follow their present course, if demands are not made that the United States give up its concepts, what new ideas could we talk about? Following this course, the bipolarized world we knew in the post-war era will inevitably become a unipolarized world under U.S. hegemony.

In Cuba we are carrying out our rectification process. It is impossible to develop a revolution or a truly socialist rectification without a strong, disciplined, and respected party. It is impossible to carry out such a process by slandering socialism, destroying its values, discrediting the party, demoralizing the vanguard, relinquishing its leadership role, eliminating social discipline, and sowing chaos and anarchy everywhere.

A counterrevolution can be promoted in this way, but not revolutionary changes. Yankee imperialism believes Cuba will not be able to resist and that the new situation created in the socialist camp will enable it to inevitably make our revolution collapse. Cuba is not a country in which socialism arrived after the victorious divisions of the Red Army. In Cuba, we Cubans forged socialism through an authentic and heroic struggle.

Thirty years of resistance to the most powerful empire on earth, which wanted to destroy our revolution, are testimony of our political and moral strength. Those who are leading the country are not a group of inexperienced upstarts who recently got to posts of responsibility. We came from the ranks of the old anti-imperialist strugglers from the schools of Mella and Guiteras, from the ranks of the Moncada and Granma, from the Sierra Maestra and the clandestine fighting, from Giron and the October crisis, of 30 years of heroic resistance of the imperialist attacks, of great labor feats, and of glorious

internationalist missions. Men and women from three generations of Cubans are gathered and assume responsibilities in our experienced party, in the organization of our marvelous young vanguard, in our powerful mass organizations, in our glorious Revolutionary Armed Forces, and in our Interior Ministry.

In Cuba, revolution, socialism, and national independence are insolubly linked. We owe everything that we are to the revolution and socialism. If capitalism returned some day to Cuba, our independence and sovereignty would disappear forever. We would be an extension of Miami, a simple appendix of the Yankee empire. The disgusting prophesy of a U.S. president of the last century, when they were thinking about annexing our island, would be fulfilled. He said it would fall into the hands of the United States like a ripe fruit. An entire people will be willing to die today, tomorrow, and always to prevent this from happening.

It is appropriate to repeat here, before his own tomb, Maceo's inmortal phrase: He who attempts to take Cuba will reap the dust of its soil bathed in blood, if he does not die in the fight. The Cuban Communists and the millions of revolutionary combatants who compose the files of our heroic and combative people will know who to play the role history has assigned to us, not only as the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere but also as front-line unyielding defenders of the noble cause of the humble and exploited in this world.

We have never aspired to be recipients of the custody of the glorious banners and the principles the revolutionary movement has defended throughout its heroic and beautiful history. However, destiny assigns us the role of one day being among the last defenders of socialism; in a world in which the Yankee empire was able to make a reality of Hitler's dreams of dominating the world, we would know how to defend this bastion until the last drop of blood.

These men and women, whom we are burying today with honor in their hospitable homeland, died for the most sacred values of our history and revolution. They died fighting against colonialism and neocolonialism; they died fighting against racism and apartheid; they died fighting against looting and the exploitation of Third World peoples; they died fighting for the independence and sovereignty of those peoples; they died fighting for the right of all peoples to well-being and development. They died fighting so there may be no hungry people, beggars, unattended patients, children out of school, jobless human beings, and homeless and foodless people. They died so there might be neither oppressors nor oppressed; neither exploiters nor exploited; they died fighting for the dignity and freedom of men. They died fighting for true peace and security for all peoples; they died for the ideas of Cespedes and Maximo Gomez; they died for the ideas of Marti and Maceo; they died for the ideas of Marx, Engels and Lenin; they died for the ideas and the example spread to the world by the October Revolution; they died for socialism; they died for internationalism; they died for the dignified and revolutionary fatherland that is today's Cuba.

We will be able to follow their example. Eternal glory to them! Socialism or death! Fatherland or death! We will win! [applause]

Havana TV Reports 2,016 Cubans Died in Angola

FL0612134689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] Because of the particular characteristics of some municipalities, the bodies of our fallen comrades can be viewed starting tonight. Among the deceased to whom we will pay our respects on this occasion are 95 comrades who fell under circumstances in which it was impossible to recover their bodies. A great effort has been made, and will continue to be made, to locate and return their bodies to Cuba. At the same time, efforts will continue to be made to find out the status of three comrades who are still missing.

The total number of comrades who fell in the line of military and civilian duty, as well as the causes for their deaths, are the following:

In Angola, there was a total of 2,016. Of those, 787 died in action, 524 from illness, and 705 in accidents. In Ethiopia, there was a total of 160. Thirty-nine of them died in combat, 46 from illness, and 75 in accidents. In other fraternal countries, the total was 113—37 in combat, 27 from illness, and 49 in accidents. The overall total is 2,289—863 died in combat, 597 from illness, and 829 in accidents. Of the overall total, 204 died on civilian cooperation missions and 2,085 on military missions.

The Cuban internationalist combatants who gave their lives in other lands and who symbolize the best traditions of our nation—unlimited altruism and loyalty to the revolution—will be an eternal example for the present and future Cuban generations, and their memories will live eternally among us.

Thurman Accused of Waging 'Imaginary' Struggle

PA0712000689 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 1 Dec 89

["Our America" commentary—read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] General Maxwell Thurman, chief of the U.S. Southern Command, recently admitted in Washington that the troops under his command since 30 September are involved in a low-intensity conflict in Panama. In making that remark, Gen Thurman becomes the first U.S. official to recognize his direct role in that sort of program, unconventional but as deadly as a declared war. An expert in psychological matters in the Vietnam war, this U.S. officer is obsessed with carrying out at all costs his superiors' orders to destablize the Panamanian state.

However, the U.S. newspaper THE MIAMI HERALD feels that countless numbers of officers—and civilians as well—are concerned by Thurman's decisions, including the decision to impose a state of siege mentality on the military bases and to remove 11,000 civilian relatives of soldiers, trying to establish a stronger troop presence. Likewise, he increased the number of patrol missions and ordered the soldiers to wear combat uniforms at all times.

According to THE MIAMI HERALD, many soldiers complain that they are not allowed to go to restaurants and beaches and other entertainment centers, thus increasing the nervousness of all. In fact, the soldiers also note that no one feels the Panamanian situation poses a threat to the security and lives of U.S. citizens. This makes it very hard to convince the U.S. troops they are at war against people who never attacked them and who respond with huge popular festivals to the violence of the constant foreign military presence. It is very hard to send these troops to war when they know they are waging an imaginary struggle in which the sole victims have been their own colleagues in various accidents during maneuvers. These soldiers do not understand very well either whether they will be forced to finally fire at a nonviolent enemy who passes by them, THE MIAMI HERALD says.

No doubt the paramount task of the new U.S. Southern Command chief is to try to bully the people of Panama, incite them, and harass them, to prepare conditions designed to violate the Panama Canal treaties. Disinformation, psychological war, and threats tend to foster in the people of Latin America and the United States the idea that Panama poses a threat to security and that the sole solution in that country is a military solution. If one pays attention to the actions of the new U.S. Southern Command chief, one will understand why he replaced retired General Fred Woerner, who recently said he was replaced for political reasons, since he opposed decisions made by the Bush administration on Panama.

The U.S. Government's objectives in Panama are simple and nearsighted because there is nothing so preposterous as military intervention, Woerner added. The demoralization of U.S. servicemen and civilians, who do not consider Panamanians an enemy of their security, may harshly punish the low-intensity conflict, which locks up even its own chief participants—U.S. troops—in the blind alley of an imaginary war.

SWAPO President Nujoma Praises Nation, Castro

FL0612184589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1247 GMT 6 Dec 89

["Excerpt" of interview with Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Organization, granted during "a recent visit to Cuba"; carried during "Revista de la Manana" program; in English with simultaneous Spanish translation—recorded]

[Text] The late Comrade President Dr Agostinho Neto was a brave African revolutionary who had wisdom and foresight. He made statements on several occasions saying that Angola's freedom and independence was meaningless unless it was linked to the liberation of Namibia and South Africa, thus putting an end to the brutal colonial domination all over the African continent. So, you will find very few leaders who have such foresight. President Neto never thought only about Angola's independence and the welfare of the Angolan people, but he was concerned with all the people of Africa, with the people in Namibia and South Africa, who were still living in the shackles of colonialism, fascism, and apartheid.

I was immediately invited by him when Angola achieved its independence. He offered the South-West African Peopie's Organization logistic facilities to carry out the struggle for the liberation of Namibia, not only logistic facilities but also weapons, and political and diplomatic support at the international level. Above all, the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] (?and) the national Angolan Army have fought side by side, shoulder by shoulder, with the [word indistinct] combatants in the struggle for the independence of Namibia.

The impression I have about Comrade Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz is that he is one of the outstanding revolutionaries of our time. Cuba is a small island situated thousands and thousands of kilometers from the African continent, but Cuba responded positively to the request of Comrade President Dr Antonio Agostinho Neto and sent its Revolutionary Armed Forces to Angola to assist the FAPLA to gain the independence of the territorial integrity of Angola. Thus, it rendered contribution and assistance to the struggling Namibian people led by SWAPO. Millions of dollars were spent, and are still being spent, in maintaining the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces in Angola. (?However), the Cuban people never say: Why should we spend so much money in a country so distant from Cuban territory? Because of their love of freedom, Cuba decided to spend billions of dollars, which they could [word indistinct] for the development of their country, to help those of us who are still living in chains of colonialism on the African continent. We can only say: Long live Fidel! Long live Cuba! [words indistinct]

SWAPO's Nujoma Sends Message to Castro

FL0712160589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Organization [SWAPO], has sent a message to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the occasion of 7 December. The message begins by recalling the history of the occasion on which we remember the sacrifices made by Comrade Che Guevara, revolutionary generals and soldiers, and Cuban internationalists, as well as by the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR]. They

carried out a historic internationalist role with their practical help and support for the peoples in their struggle to break the chains of colonialism, imperialism, racism, and feudalism and to attain genuine freedom and independence in the world, and specifically in Ethiopia, Angola, and the rest of the African continent, says Sam Nujoma.

Later in the message, the Namibian leader sends revolutionary and warm greetings to Fidel, the FAR, the Government and people of Cuba, and the relatives of those generals and courageous revolutionary combatants who fought for freedom, justice, and human dignity.

Their efforts have made it possible for us Namibians in particular—who were languishing under the South African regime of the racist white minority—to find ourselves today at the door to our freedom and independence. We thank the Cuban internationalist and revolutionary Armed Forces. Long live the FAR! Long live the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba! Signed, Sam Nujoma, SWAPO president.

Day of National Mourning Decreed for 7 December

FL0612145089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] The Council of State of the Republic of Cuba has decreed a day of national mourning starting today at 1800 until tomorrow midnight. The nation's flag will be flown at half-mast at public buildings and military establishments, and no other public events will be held.

The State Committee for Labor and Social Security will regulate work activities in work centers in accordance with the planned funeral ceremonies so that a large portion of our people can attend.

Angola's Dos Santos Continues Official Visit

Tours Isle of Youth

FL0612165089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1632 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola and of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, has arrived at the Isle of Youth, where he will tour centers of interest and meet with the Angolan student community.

Cuban and Angolan pioneers gave flowers to the leader and his high-ranking delegation, who arrived accompanied by Jorge Risquet, a member of the Politburo. Armando Manresa, first secretary of the party in the special municipality, welcomed them at the airport.

United by friendship, solidarity, and internationalism, Angolan students and residents of the Isle of Youth greeted Dos Santos on his second visit to the territory. [passage omitted]

Meets With Internationalists

FL0612201489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Excerpts] A few hours after his arrival in this capital, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, held a meeting with Cuban combatants and internationalists who carried out missions in Angola.

Also present at the meeting were Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo; high-ranking members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; and the members of the delegation which accompanied President Dos Santos. The meeting was held at the Palace of Conventions.

President Dos Santos gave an opening speech in which he expressed how much the assistance of Cuban internationalists has meant for Angola and all of Africa.

[Begin Dos Santos recording in Portuguese with simultaneous Spanish translation] In a few words, I can say that Cuba's decisive role in Angola was extremely important not just for the defense, independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Angola, but it was also a very big contribution to the total liberation of the African continent. It was a contribution to the consolidation of peace in Africa and to easing of international tensions. [end recording]

It was a moving exchange in which combatants and workers who completed missions in Angola narrated their experiences and expressed their feelings toward the Angolan people. [passage omitted on combatants' narrations of their experiences in Angola]

[Begin Dos Santos recording] At this time, all we can do is express our deepest gratitude to the Government of Cuba, the Communist Party of Cuba, and especially to Comrade Fidel Castro, who was the main architect of the exemplary relations of friendship and internationalist solidarity between Angola and Cuba. [applause] [end recording]

Delegations Hold Talks

FL0712153489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers; and Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola and the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, are presiding over the official talks between high-ranking delegations from the two countries which began last night in the Palace of the Revolution.

The Angolan delegation to the talks is composed of: Alfonso Van Dunem, secretary of the Central Committee for foreign relations; Antonio dos Santos Franca

Ndalu, chief of the General Staff of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola; and Colonel (Antonio Jose Maria), secretary of the president for defense and security affairs.

The Cuban delegation is composed of Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR]; members of the PCC Central Committee Politburo Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Jorge Risquet; Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, alternate member of the Politburo and first vice minister of the FAR as well as chief of the FAR General Staff; Carlos Aldana, secretary of the PCC Central Committee; and Division General Leopoldo Cintra Frias, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the Cuban military mission in Angola.

Jorge Risquet Welcomes Ethiopian Vice President

FL0612153089 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] Berhanu Bayeh, vice president of the Council of State and member of the Politburo of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia, arrived in Cuba this morning. At the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, the Ethiopian leader heads the delegation from that brother country that will attend the funeral ceremonies for the Cubans who fell in internationalist missions in Africa and other parts of the world.

Upon his arrival in Havana, Berhanu Bayeh was received at the airport by Jorge Risquet Valdes, secretary of the PCC Central Committee and member of the Politburo. Also present at Jose Marti Airport were other Cuban leaders as well as the Ethiopian ambassador to Cuba, Mr (Abebe Belayne).

Alarcon, Hidalgo Discuss Namibian Elections

FL0612155089

[Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0130 GMT on 2 December carries its "International View" Program on the elections recently held in Namibia. The program's guests are Dr Ricardo Alarcon, Cuban foreign vice minister and member of the Cuban delegation to the tripartite meeting; and Alcibiades Hidalgo, chief of the observer mission to Namibia and member of the Cuban delegation to Namibia. The program's host is identified by a caption but cannot be identified due to poor video reception.

The host states that the purpose of this "International View" program is to discuss the outcome of the Namibian elections, which he describes as a historic event. He adds that the elections can be considered an important victory for the international revolutionary movement.

Hidalgo notes that although the South African and Namibian reactionary press rejoiced because the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, did not get two-thirds of the seats at the Constituent Assembly, he says SWAPO won the elections by a landslide, considering that Namibia is divided into many political forces and that it had so little time to campaign.

Alarcon mentions that SWAPO has stated that the constitution is going to be discussed at length with all the political forces in the country and it is going to seek a broader consensus. He says SWAPO does not intend to impose a constitution on the Namibian people.

The program's host reminds the viewers that the pressures exerted by the Cuban military victory in Angola and by the international community forced South Africa to agree to sit down and negotiate Namibia's independence. He also notes that internal factors forced South Africa to be more realistic about Namibia.

Referring to this, Alarcon says the majority of the Namibian population has been struggling for years against apartheid and for the liberation of their country. He notes that there has been a growing anti-apartheid feeling among white South Africans that has also pressured the government.

Hidalgo comments on the most recent Angola-Cuba-South Africa tripartite meeting. He says it was a very brief meeting but that it reflected the status of the negotiation process. He says the success of the electoral process favors the fulfillment of the agreements. He states this was the first time Namibian representatives participated in such a meeting.

Turning to the Namibian economy, Hildalgo notes that a UN mission report shows that the white community, which represents only five percent of the population, receives 57 percent of the gross national product. He states this is going to have an effect on the course of events immediately after the elections. He also mentions that because of the colonial situation Namibia endured for so long, there is a lot of foreign capital in Namibia. This, he says, is going to be a big challenge to the new government regarding how it is going to handle its economy.

Finally, the host says the situation in Namibia has changed a great deal in the last year. Namibia, he notes, is at the threshold of independence. He adds that, although difficult times lie ahead, Namibia's outlook is very promising.

Pyongyang Embassy News Conference on U.S. Acts

SK0612221389 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] Pyongyang December 6 (KCNA)—A press conference was held at the Cuban Embassy here Wednesday in connection with the U.S. imperialists grave criminal acts against the Cuban people.

Present there were newspaper, news agency and radio reporters in Pyongyang, press officials of foreign embassies and foreign correspondents here, a deputy chief of

the Mission of the "South Korean National Democratic Front" (Hanminjon) in Pyongyang, and Charge d'Affaires ad Interim of the Cuban Embassy here Javier Perez and his embassy officials.

Addressing the press conference, secretary of the embassy Raimundo Pino Ricardo said that the U.S. imperialists are attempting to set up a reptile television broadcasting station [as received] and broadcast programs against the Cuban people. Such plan of the United States is a criminal act of violating the Nairobi Agreement signed in 1982 and its spirit, he noted, and went on:

The U.S. imperialists, from the outset of the victory of the Cuban revolution, have committed subversive moves, direct armed invasion and all other criminal acts against Cuba.

If the United States starts destructive and counter-revolutionary broadcasting from January 1990, the Cuban people will take a proper step and not allow such "policy of strength" violating the sovereignty of Cuba.

The U.S. illegal and immoral anti-Cuban moves are a typical imperialist act. The Cuban people will frustrate this shameless plan of the U.S. imperialists, defend their sovereignty and protect the cultural development and peculiarity of the country.

El Salvador

Cristiani Comments on Upcoming San Jose Summit

PA0812015789 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani expressed on 6 December his conviction that new efforts for detente in Central America could emerge from the upcoming San Jose summit but that this depends on the verification process to be conducted by the United Nations.

[Begin recording] [Cristiani] If we are going to make an effort for regional detente and peace in El Salvador and eliminate all possibilities of armed conflict in the region, all countries of the region should make good on all the commitments they made during the presidents Esquipulas II meeting in 1987. There has been a flagrant violation of the accords. We think that at the upcoming meeting Nicaragua should make a much more serious commitment to comply with the accords. A stronger verification process should be implemented to ensure Nicaragua's compliance with the accords and to make sure that this country stops attacking the Salvadoran people by supporting the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front].

[Reporter] Will ONUCA [United Nations Observer Group in Central America] participate in this verification process?

[Cristiani] [Words indistinct] peace plans and the accords of the presidents be observed by ONUCA. I think ONUCA's arrival will preclude this situation. ONUCA is a reliable verification mechanism to make Nicaragua stop supporting the FMLN. As for the relative calm observed in the past few hours, the Armed Forces are pursuing the rebels to try to prevent the FMLN forces from regrouping and creating more problems, as they did on 11 November. The Armed Forces are operating in San Salvador's metropolitan area. As we said before, we have indications they intend to perpetrate terrorist activities, such as the murder of Francisco Jose Guerrero. Also, we have seen attacks on gas stations, electricity lines, and buses. The Armed Forces are currently trying to prevent them from succeeding. [end recording]

Cristiani paid a surprise visit to the Supreme Court of Justice at noon, where he arrived [words indistinct] the latest events in the country. It was also reported that the president of the Supreme Court of Justice is not in El Salvador at this time.

Government Sees Rift in Sandinist Leadership

PA0812032589 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 6 Dec 89 p 2

[Communique issued by the National Communications Secretariat in San Salvador on 5 December]

[Text] In view of the irreversibility of the democratic process initiated in El Salvador in 1982 and reinforced in March 1989 with the overwhelming majority of votes received by Alfredo Cristiani, opposition candidate at the time and current president, the Sandinist leadership and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], in a desperate attempt to lessen their international isolation, devised a plan including a several staged political-military strategy in our country, according to analysts.

Several types of armed aggression against El Salvador were shaped in Nicaragua, always under the guise of dialogue-negotiation. For the Nicaraguan dictator and his FMLN puppets, this strategy consists of keeping "the enemy, in this case the Salvadoran Government, bound hand and foot."

Reportedly, the serious disagreements between the Sandinist leaders, that are not new, have worsened in the past few days for a number of reasons. The most recent reason is the failure of the terrorist offensive against El Salvador, that was planned by Cuba, Nicaragua, and the FMLN. As we all know, the Sandinists are also concerned about the electoral process in Nicaragua. They are using several different kinds of smoke screens to fool the international public. The first of these smoke screens was to suspend the cease-fire to launch an armed offensive to do away with the Nicaraguan resistance. Then they prepared aggression against El Salvador.

Ortega is desperate because the Sandinists will be toppled if free elections are held in his country. This is why he has been trying anything to create diversions, even at a high cost to himself. Losing the elections would spell an end for him and the FMLN terrorists. Hence they are exerting great effort in finding formulas for discrediting El Salvador abroad, particularly in international forums, and to weaken the friendly relations between our government and the United States. The Sandinist cause would profit from all this.

The Nicaraguan Government's situation will be aggravated even further by the failure of the terrorist offensive against the Salvadoran people and particularly because of the Soviet Union's pressure on Fidel Castro and Nicaragua, if these two countries do not go along with changes taking place in Eastern Europe, especially perestroyka.

In view of the people's desire for peace, as indicated by the election results in March, and taking into account all the support that the FMLN received for its recent terrorist offensive, the Salvadoran Government could resume the dialogue process, provided that Daniel Ortega honors the commitment he made at Tela, which is clear and final, and provided that the FMLN, which has received logistical, military, and political support from Nicaragua, ceases hostilities immediately.

Coprefa Reports Recent Skirmishes, Casualties

PA0712145889 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1227 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Report by the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, in San Salvador on 7 December]

[Text] A Salvadoran Air Force O-2 plane crashed in Las Trancas, Ozatlan Jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, after Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] terrorists opened fire on it with rifles. An Air Force pilot, Lieutenant Jose Sigifredo Valle Silesar, was killed in the accident; he was on a mission to support military units carrying out search operations in the eastern part of the country.

Five terrorists were killed in various clashes with Armed Forces troops in different parts of the country. The engineers military detachment reported the death of three extremists during clashes in Lievano, Buena Vista, and the northern part of Zacatecoluca, in La Paz Department. The engineers detachment also reported attacks on the northern outskirts of the department capital, but did not know how many casualties had been inflicted on the terrorist groups. The military units suffered no casualties.

Meanwhile, Bracamonte Battalion troops inflicted two casualties on the FMLN during a clash on El Rosario hill in Antiguo Cuscatlan, La Libertad Department. Two Army troops were killed, and a variety of war materiel was seized.

The Belloso Battalion has also reported a clash in San Jose Cortez, Tonacatepeque jurisdiction, San Salvador Department, during which a soldier was killed. Army troops are searching the area for FMLN casualties.

Also reported was a terrorist attack on personnel guarding the Mariona Penitentiary in the northeastern part of Mejicanos. No casualties were reported. The Army units that arrived at the site to repel the extremists followed them into areas north of the penitentiary.

The National Guard seized 45 blocks of TNT, 210 cartridges, and material to fabricate explosives at a house in phase three of the Santa Carlota neighborhood in San Salvador.

Meanwhile, terrorist Enrique Omar Fuentes, whose pseudonym is Enrique, deserted the FMLN. He surrendered to 4th Infantry Brigade troops guarding the Colima bridge, El Paraiso Jurisdiction, in Chalatenango. The 4th Brigade said that its troops seized four AR-15 rifles, ammunition, and a variety of military equipment during a search operation in San Francisco, Santa Elena, and El Paraiso, in Usulutan Department.

The National Guard has announced that FMLN terrorists murdered peasant Adolfo Perez Ceron because he refused to provide food to the criminal subversives who operate in the area. The crime was perpetrated in the Piedra Cara hamlet, San Jose Guayabal jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department, where the victim lived. Perez left a wife and three small children.

In another vandalic action, FMLN terrorists burned five privately-owned vehicles in the Miraflores area of the city of San Miguel. The 3d Infantry Brigade reports that the subversives are creating serious problems for the civilian population in that eastern part of the country.

Reports More Attacks

PA0812012589 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Report by the Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador on 7 December]

[Text] The Belloso Battalion Command has reported that 16 terrorists were killed in fighting that took place yesterday morning in San Laureano Canton, Tonacatepeque Jurisdiction, San Salvador Department. During this fighting one soldier was killed, and three were wounded. Also, four civil defense members were killed early this morning while trying to defend their positions during a guerrilla attack on their command post in the town.

Meanwhile, Bracamonte Battalion troops reported five terrorists of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] killed in fighting that took place yesterday afternoon on La Labranza estate, Nuevo Cuscatlan Jurisdiction, La Libertad Department. Three soldiers of the local garrison were killed in this attack.

The 1st Infantry Brigade reported armed clashes in the Skandia residential area in Ayutuxtepeque, where two terrorists, and one soldier were killed. Two soldiers were wounded in this fighting, and the Army seized two AK-47 rifles, ammunition, and a radio.

At 0630 today, FMLN terrorist groups mounted attacks near the 59-km marker on the San Salvador-Santa Ana Highway, in the area of Las Arabas Canton, where they murdered two civilians and burned seven vehicles. One of the murdered civilians was Julian Sanchez Guzman, who was shot in his car, bearing license plate number 65562. The terrorists then set the vehicle on fire. The other victim has not yet been identified, but he was reportedly a peasant who was going to pick coffee in the area.

At 0500 today, terrorists burned a sack factory in San Miguel. The 3d Military Zone reported that the extremists burned the Salvatex factory, leaving many workers without jobs.

The Army also reported that 110 terrorists were killed in combat with the Salvadoran Army and Air Force in the San Salvador Volcano area. The Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces reported at 1000 today that 110 FMLN terrorists were killed after joint Army, and Air Force troops clashed with them yesterday afternoon, evening, and early this morning at 3 different locations in the San Salvador Volcano area. According to the

reports, 60 extremists were killed on the Oakland estate, 30 more on La Fincona estate, and 20 more on the Valencia estate. These estates are at the base of the volcano in western San Salvador.

It was also reported that at least 50 seriously wounded terrorists were evacuated to the El Cipres estate, near Santa Tecla, and others fled to the San Roque, Mejicanos area.

The FMLN last night and early this morning carried out indiscriminate attacks on the civilian population in several residential areas of western San Salvador, where they also damaged homes and private vehicles. These attacks violate basic human rights in the country. The terrorists wounded two persons and damaged several homes in the attacks.

Further on Recent Clashes

PA0812044189

[Editorial Report] San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish at 0125 GMT on 8 December carries three reports on recent clashes with Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] guerrillas.

The first report states: "Twenty-four FMLN terrorists were killed in several clashes with Armed Forces units in Tonacatepeque, San Salvador, Nuevo Cuscatlan, La Libertad, and Ayutuxtepeque in northwestern San Salvador. The Belloso Battallion command reported that 16 terrorists were killed on the morning of 6 December in San Laureano Canton, Tonacatepeque Jurisdiction, San Salvador Department. A soldier was killed, and three were wounded. Also, four Civil Defense members were killed while defending their positions during an extremist attack on Civil Defense headquarters in Tonacatepeque. This attack took place at dawn on 7 December."

The report adds: "Meanwhile, Bracamonte Battalion troops reported that five FMLN subversives were killed in clashes on the evening of 6 December in La Labranza Farm, Nuevo Cuscatlan, La Libertad Department. Three members of that military garrison were killed. The 1st Infantry Brigade reported armed clashes in Escandia neighborhood in Ayutuxtepeque, where two terrorists, and a soldier were killed, and two other soldiers were wounded. Two AK-47 rifles, magazines containing ammunition, and a communications radio were seized.

The report adds further: "In Chalatenango, 4th Infantry Brigade troops killed a FMLN rebel during a clash at noon on 6 December in Las Casitas, Agua Caliente. An AR-15 rifle, 130 rounds of ammunition, 5 booby traps, and a complete set of military gear were seized. Two soldiers of the Armed Forces Transmission Training Center were wounded during an extremist attack on the morning of 6 December near Las Mercedes, Santo Tomas, south of San Salvador."

A second report states: "As for attacks from midnight on 6 December to 0300 on 7 December, reports from several western areas of the capital state that terrorist groups apparently fired mortars on homes in the neighborhoods of San Benito, La Mascota, Loma Linda, and nearby areas. Armed Forces units supported by helicopters engaged the FMLN subversives who fled in disarray toward the slopes of San Salvador Volcano where a military operation is taking place at this time."

The report adds: "Armed Forces troops are fighting against terrorist groups detected on the morning of 7 December in the vicinity of El Rosario Hill, Antiguo Cuscatlan Municipality, La Libertad Department. Also, Treasury Police clashed with subversives in Soyapango. The results are not yet available."

The report states: "At 0600 on 7 December, subversives killed two civilians and burned seven commercial and private vehicles in the vicinity of kilometer 59 along the San Salvador-Santa Ana Highway, (Las Saradas) Canton."

A third report states: "The Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff at 1000 on 7 December reported that FMLN terrorists sustained 110 casualties during clashes with joint Salvadoran Army-Air Forces operations on the afternoon and evening of 6 December and dawn of 7 December at 13 farms in the San Salvador Volcano area."

The report adds: "Terrorist groups attacked civilians on the evening of 6 December and dawn of 7 December in several neighborhoods of western San Salvador and damaged private homes and vehicles."

Also the report states: "The terrorists hurled an explosive device at the building housing the Pan-American Health Office and the WHO regional office at the intersection of 75th South Avenue and Olympic Avenue, La Mascota neighborhood." It adds: "Terrorists also set off a 60mm grenade across from the office of UN High Commissioners for Refugees."

Rebel Sabotage Leaves Half Nation Without Power

PA0812004689 Paris AFP in Spanish 2255 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Dec (AFP)—A prolonged blackout caused by guerrilla sabotage is affecting 50 percent of the Salvadoran country today, official sources confirmed.

Reporting on rebel actions this morning, state-owned Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission (CEL) spokesmen said that Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas sabotaged two 115,000-volt power lines running into the city.

A total of eight damaged power lines have left San Salvador and central La Paz Department completely without electricity. CEL implemented an emergency plan that includes using the small, gas-powered Soyopango electricity plant, located on the outskirts of San Salvador, to provide energy just to hospitals and water-pumping stations.

The economic losses resulting from the lack of electricity cannot be estimated, and, according to the official report, the entire industrial zone in Soyopango and Ilopango were paralyzed this morning. The four eastern area departments, San Miguel, Morazan, La Union, and Usulutan, are receiving some electric power from a gas-powered plant. This morning, the FMLN reiterated that it will escalate the attacks on the power system within the framework of the general offensive launched on 11 November.

FMLN on Sabotage Activities

PA0712203989 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1807 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Attention, national and international press. This is a report from San Salvador.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] reports that as of 2200 on 6 December, FMLN columns [words indistinct] inside the capital city, staged attacks on military garrisons, and carried out sabotage activities in various parts of the country.

After breaking up the enemy's defensive positions in San Salvador, the FMLN occupied various areas in the capital. The general staff installations were attacked with 60-mm mortars. [words indistinct] and air support against our positions. We are awaiting detailed reports of this attack on the general staff with 60-mm mortars.

Simultaneously, our guerrilla columns in San Salvador established positions in San Benito, Escalon, La Mascota, and (?Maquiliguat) neighborhoods, San Antonio Abad and the northern periphery of the general staff installations. They are battling with marines, Military Detachment No. 7 from Aguachapan, the elite battalions stationed there, National Police forces, and units from the San Benito battalion in charge of guarding the general staff installations. It is reported that one M-16 rifle, pistols, military equipment, and a large quantity of ammunition were seized from the Army.

At 0100, our antiaircraft units opened fire on two helicopters in Escalon neighborhood. One of them was a transport helicopter and the other a gunship. Both were damaged. Meanwhile, our guerrillas also used mortars during an attack on the San Benito Battalion's positions near Zona Rosa. At the same time, an attack was carried out against the CETIPOL [Police Instruction Center] police academy in Santa Tecla, using 81-mm mortars. From another direction attacks were staged against the CETIPOL's peripheral defense until late this morning.

Meanwhile, an attack carried out from the northern part of San Salvador led to incursions in Soyapango, Mejicanos, and Ayutuxtepeque. In Ayutuxtepeque the FMLN carried out annihilation maneuvers against the 1st Infantry Brigade's Soriano Battalion, stationed on El Carmen hill where we killed 15 soldiers and wounded 30. Among these casualties is an officer from the 1st Infantry Brigade.

The FMLN seized five M-16 rifles, one [word indistinct] grenade-launcher, [words indistinct], four M-60 machine guns from the annihilated troops. A military vehicle was partially destroyed, and an enemy patrol was totally destroyed.

PRAL [Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrol] reinforcement units attempted to support the army troops under attack but they were repelled by the FMLN.

Electricity in different parts of the capital city was sabotaged, leaving 90 percent of the city without power.

Attention. Here is the report on the helicopter downed in Soyapango. Attention. On 6 December there were clashes in San Jose Cortez, jurisdiction of Soyapango, with the Belloso Battalion receiving strong aerial support up until the afternoon hours. Helicopters machine-gunned and rocketed this densely populated area. Our antiaircraft units, reaffirming our determination to defend the civilian population against aerial attacks, opened fire and hit a gunship. The gunship fell to the ground at the Morazan tobacco company.

Guerrilla units simultaneously attacked paramilitary forces in Tonacatepeque during the early hours of 7 December, prompting aerial support because this area is on the Air Force's security perimeter. However, calls from the battalion that was being annihilated on the El Carmen hill in Ayutuxtepeque went unheeded.

These are the first reports on all the activities under way in San Salvador, where at 2200 on 6 December our guerrilla units began to force and break the barracade the high command built at the general staff's bunker [words indistinct] our columns, until they penetrated those mentioned areas, fighting in the Escalon and San Benito neighborhoods where the oligarchs live.

Actions have also taken place throughout the country. Factories have been sabotaged, strategic highways have been controlled, positions have been established, and towns have been occupied. We will furnish further information later.

FMLN on San Salvador Attack, Downed Helicopter

PA0712144989 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1309 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Attention. Pay close attention to the following information:

Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] troops began attacking enemy positions in San Salvador at 2200 on 6 December, entering the city from the north, south, east, and west.

Attention. Report from Soyapango, San Salvador: FMLN antiaircraft units have downed an Armed Forces helicopter gunship during the battles in Soyapango. We are waiting for the official military report on this action in San Salvador. We are no longer only downing airplanes and helicopters in the interior of the country.

Thousands of San Salvador residents were able to see the downing of a helicopter gunship in the metropolitan area. We downed a helicopter gunship that was shooting at the civilian population in Soyapango, San Salvador.

We had already warned Air Force General Juan Rafael Bustillo. We are not going to allow women, children, and residents of San Salvador to be bombed again. We are not going to allow more genocidial actions in San Salvador. Once and for all, we reaffirm to the fascist command staff that we are not going to allow more bombing in San Salvador. Starting right now, gentlemen, the people forbid you to bomb the city. We forbid you to do so, and for that purpose we will down your airplanes and helicopters. Our people know that an A-37 aircraft was downed in San Miguel, a helicopter was downed in San Miguel at the beginning of the offensive, a push-pull plane was downed in Usulutan, and now this helicopter in Soyapango. We are waiting for a report on the possible death of the helicopter crew. We are waiting for an official report from our comrades in Soyapango.

Meanwhile, we also have reports that fighting is still going on at this time in the northeastern part of San Salvador. We are waiting for an official report on the number of casualties that have been inflicted on the enemy. Our men have inflicted many casualties on soldiers from the Atcatl Battalion, Belloso Battalion, Paratroopers Battalion, National Police, Treasury Police, 4th Infantry Brigade, Sonsonate Military Detachment No 6, and 5th Infantry Brigade during the clashes that have taken place since last night.

FMLN Threatens, Demands Payment From Farmers

PA0812033789 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0040 GMT 8 Dec 89

["Official communique" issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador on 7 December]

[Text] The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] informs our people and coffee producers in El Salvador that:

1. The wage scale established for the current coffee harvest is 6 colons for each 25 pounds of coffee picked.

2. This is the wage that coffee farmers must pay during the current coffee harvest, otherwise, their properties will be sabotaged. Landowners not complying with this measure will be subject to sabotage both in rural areas and cities.

We urge workers at coffee farms to organize themselves to guarantee the payment of 6 colons for every 25 pounds of coffee picked and to inform our fighters of those coffee farmers not complying with this measure.

[Signed] FMLN
El Salvador, 7 December 1989

Detained Foreign Journalists Released

PA0812003089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2307 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Four foreign journalists who had been detained yesterday afternoon in Jucuapa, 110 km southeast of San Salvador, were released last night, associate reporters have reported.

Yuichi Hochiko, Japanese correspondent for the KYODO NEWS SERVICE, told ACAN-EFE that he, two U.S. journalists, and one Canadian journalist were detained yesterday at 1700 in Jucuapa and taken to the town's National Guard garrison.

The others released are Canadian photographer Larry Tower and U.S. reporters Victor Hinteelag of J.B. Pictures and Joseph Paul McDonald.

"They treated us well. They gave us food last night," Hochiko said, adding that the four were detained while trying to change two flat tires on their car.

The photographer and correspondents were trying to locate an airplane downed by rebels of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) with Dragunov rifles on 5 December in Ozatlan, Usulutan Department.

Honduras

Army Detects Sandinist Border Reinforcement

PA0712174889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1657 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—The situation on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border remains "tense" in view of the increased number of Sandinist troops in the area, Colonel Manuel Enrique Suarez, spokesperson for the Honduran Armed Forces, reported today.

The military officer termed "inappropriate" alleged strengthening of the Sandinist military positions on the eve of the Central American presidential summit, to be held in San Jose, Costa Rica, 10-12 December.

The military officer said that "the Sandinists have deployed more units to the border in the past few hours," but did not say how many more troops or name the places where they have been posted.

It was learned unofficially that the Army detected that Sandinist military positions in Nicaragua close to the border town of Yamales, where the Nicaraguan "contras" have their general headquarters, have been reinforced.

To avert any military incident, 60 members of the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA) are in Honduras to safeguard respect for the territorial sovereignty of the bordering countries.

However, the observers are concentrating on tasks to establish themselves in the Honduran capital. It is not known when they will go to the Nicaraguan border, where military tensions have increased as a result of the anti-Sandinists' refusal to lay down their weapons as was agreed at the previous August presidential summit held in Honduras.

Contras To Send Delegation to Costa Rica Summit

PA0812013989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2254 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 Dec (DPA)—The Nicaraguan contras announced in Tegucigalpa this afternoon that they will send a high-level delegation to the Central American presidential summit that will be held in Costa Rica. They said they want to explain their views to the presidents and be available for any consultations.

Colonel Enrique Bermudez, military chief of the contras, said that tomorrow they will decide on the members of the delegation that will go to the Central American summit because the high-ranking anti-Sandinist military leaders must first meet.

However, in a separate interview, Commander "Johnson," one of the contra spokesmen, said the delegation would consist of Israel Galeano ("Franklin"), Oscar Sobalbarro ("Ruben"), Boanergen Mathus ("Pepe"), Agustin Blandon ("Vladimir") and civilian leader Aristides Sanchez.

"Johnson" said that at the summit the contras will stress the Sandinists take the necessary steps to create the conditions making the demobilization of the contras possible.

Both "Johnson" and Bermudez agreed that since the last summit in Tela, Honduras, there has been a "retrogression" of those conditions, adding that Sandinist intervention was shown in El Salvador, and the cease-fire was broken in Nicaragua.

Col Bermudez said the demobilization of his forces—that according to the Tela agreement should have been disbanded on 5 December—cannot be undertaken in a disorderly manner. He indicated that they must hold many negotiations with the Sandinists to discuss issues of democratization, general amnesty, settlement sites, and political and economic security for his fighters.

The contra military chief warned that one cannot speak of demobilization prior to the February 1990 Nicaraguan elections.

Panama

Manfredo Explains Reason for Accepting Appointment

PA0712193589 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1746 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Interview with Fernando Manfredo, deputy Panama Canal Commission administrator, by Hilda Ester Canengues; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Manfredo] I truly appreciate this opportunity you are giving me because I believe that there are many people who are confused about this. First of all, I am not being appointed administrator or acting administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, simply because this cannot be done. The Panama Canal Treaties clearly specify the steps that must be taken for the appointment of a new administrator. The treaties establish that the administrator must be a Panamanian citizen and he must be proposed by the Panamanian Government.

What am I doing? What have I agreed to do? I have agreed to remain in here as deputy administrator for as long as necessary, as long as the problem between Panama and the United States remains unsolved. As a result of the problem between Panama and the United States, the person proposed by the Panamanian Government will not be appointed as of 1 January. Therefore, I put my foot down. I believe that it is important that I remain in the trench where [General Omar] Torrijos placed me until the replacement is made and the person chosen by Panama is appointed.

If I abandon the office of deputy administrator, this office will be filled by a U.S. citizen, as is established in the treaties. That person would then be the acting administrator. I can see this so clearly that I really do not understand how anyone can see it differently. Believe me, I have been surprised by all that has happened.

I am sending a message to some friends of mine. I have told them that the 10 years that I have been working for the Panama Canal Commission have taken a toll on my physical health; however, they have not affected my intelligence or patriotism. I see things clearly, and I am convinced that what I am doing is what is best for Panama under the current circumstances. We must protect the position of the Panamanian here while the other problem is solved.

Furthermore, in May or June 1989 I moved to my home in Las Cumbres [suburb in Panama City], thinking that there were going to be no problems with the appointment of the new administrator who would be a Panamanian, but not I. Secondly, I accepted a very attractive job offer outside Panama. The deadline to confirm my acceptance was 26 November. I had already said that I would accept the job, but when I realized that this position was going to be left open and that situations undesirable for Panama would occur, I turned down the job offer to stay on for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 months, I do not know how long, but God willing it will not be too long.

[Canengues] However, it is being said that your talk with Bush had something to do with your acceptance. It is said that an agreement was...

[Manfredo, interrupting] I have talked to no one. I was simply invited to stay on. To a certain extent, I believe that this was the best move for Panama, because if I had turned down the invitation, the United States could have said: We had to appoint a U.S. citizen because the Panamanian who held the office turned down our offer.

[Canengues] What is your opinion of the criticism regarding loss of nationality and other things?

[Manfredo] Let me tell you something, I did...[changes thought] As I told Rigoberto Paredes, as I told my friend Rigoberto Paredes in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, I am the first to admit that explaining this situation is not easy and understanding it is practically impossible. I am criticizing no one. I understand what is going on, but I only hope that the people will stop and think, will think calmly and dispassionately. In the long run, they will understand that I did what I had to do. I am not worried about those things. Furthermore, I understand them.

Panama has every right to react the way it did, because the person it suggested was not appointed. I know that many people do not understand this. Many people—some in good faith, others not—do not understand what I am doing. But as I said, I have not lost my intelligence or my patriotism.

PRD Condemns Manfredo Appointment

PA0712131389 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 7 Dec 89 pp 1, 14

[Communique issued by Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD, in Panama City; date not given]

[Text] In view of the Bush administration statement saying that "beginning on 1 January 1990 it appoints Fernando Manfredo, assistant administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, as acting administrator," which is in violation of the letter and spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the PRD states its position in regard to this action violating international laws.

1. This decision of the U.S. Government violates Article III Section 3C of the current agreement concerning the operation, administration, and defense of the canal, which is the fruit of negotiations that were approved by the Panamanian people through a plebiscite and by the U.S. Senate, and was later endorsed by all Latin American governments and ratified by 25 states in the world, insofar as the neutrality pact is concerned.

2. To comply with the letter and spirit of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, the National Assembly of Panama and the Panamanian Government proposed Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque for appointment as administrator of the Panama Canal Commission beginning on 1 January 1990.

3. As part of the vanguard of the struggle for national liberation, our party states before local and international public opinion that it repudiates this decision by the Bush administration and declares its membership and our people in general on a state of national alert to confront this additional act of aggression by the U.S. Government.

4. We call on all of our country's patriotic, democratic, and progressive forces to set aside all political or ideological positions and to form a national front to confront this colonialist onslaught.

5. We call on the national government to exhaust every local and international measure to bring the full weight of Panama's laws to bear on Fernando Manfredo, who, because of his conduct, has become a traitor to Panama, and to report this new violation of the treaties to the UN Security Council and the Nonaligned Movement.

PRD Executive Committee.

Front-Page Editorial Terms Bush 'Loony on Duty'

PA0712165489 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 7 Dec 89 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Panama's National Anthem Requires Worldwide Dimension"]

[Text] Any sane person finds it impossible to even imagine what a person who has lost his or her mind can be thinking. The human brain's intricate and still unknown inner workings have refused to yield the secret of how the mind operates, particularly when the one doing the thinking has lost the ability to reason and plunges head on without control into the abyss of madness.

Adolf Hilter's megalomaniac insanity was a clear example of what we are referring to. The sick mind of this monstruous abortion of humankind produced new and until then unforeseen notions, such as that of the German superman prototype of the Aryan race, genocidal actions like the blitzkrieg, and the concentration camps with furnaces in which millions of human beings were incinerated not only to exterminate them but to extract from them anything that could be useful, like dentures, gold fillings, bones, fat, and skin.

However, Hitler turned out to be just as perishable as his madness, and it seemed highly unlikely that the human beings who inhabit Europe and the world could ever again feel the fear of a similar danger.

However, all those who harbored this hope were wrong to do so, because a new psychopath has emerged. A few months after emerging from the relative anonymity in which he had lived, he has proved that, compared to his predecessor Ronald Reagan, he can be an even deeper thinker than Rodin's statue.

Like all madmen, the loony on duty has a fixation: Panama. He tries to conceal it at times, and at other

times covers it up with the name of Manuel Antonio Noriega, but the dissembling lasts only a short while and then he goes back to his fixation: Panama, Panama and its canal, which is the root theme of his insanity.

When everybody thought that he had done it all, no, a new spark of madness has lighted his purulent cerebral mass, and he has decided to leave Panama without its patriotic symbols...!

Nothing less than that. To attain his goal (or so Bush thinks), he started by erasing our flags from all the world's seas—closing U.S. ports to all merchant ships that sail under the Panamanian flag. And now, in his last (for the time being) crazed fit, Bush has decided to delete the Panamanian anthem from a sporting event that traditionally plays the anthems of the participants' countries.

Of course, Bush will not attain his goal. One day, sooner or later, the Panamanian flag will again wave from the masts of a huge merchant fleet that will sail the earth's seas. As for the anthem,—the anthem that will not be played tonight at [Panamanian boxer Roberto] Mano de Piedra Duran's appointment with victory—it will be on the lips of many people. The anthem will be at the site where the legendary Panamanian gladiator will box. There, many mouths will sing the anthem, and they will be followed by thousands, millions of men who will join their voices as soon as there is a moment of silence at the boxing ring (at the hotel) to give the omnipresent anthem of the Republic of Panama the importance that it merits.

Tonight, at the time our anthem reaches international stature, the figure of George Bush will start to disintegrate. It will be a progressive disintegration that will not stop, not even when the winds of oblivion have compassionately swept away all the ashes of such an unpleasant memory. And even then, any particle on this earth that unluckily retains a single atom of what this man ever was—even if it is an infinitesimal shadow of this psychopath—will continue to be swept away by the permanent winds of national sovereignty that will continue to sing as they do today:

"We have finally reached victory

and are now happily united."

And, very close to us, the free men of the world will respond in unison: "So be it for all the centuries and centuries to come... Amen!

PDC Requests Dialogue Without Noriega Dismissal

PA0712200889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1837 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Panama City, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Today the main opposition party—the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]—expressed its willingness to start a dialogue with the regime "immediately" to democratize the country. However, it did not include the retirement of General Manuel Antonio Noriega as commander of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] as one of the points to be discussed to attain this goal.

A PDC communique asserts that it is willing to reach an agreement with the FDP to form a government with "freely elected civilians" and to revise the law that regulates military actions.

Regarding the latter, the communique mentions "the renewal of military commands according to military promotion lists," but does not include the demand—repeated by the opposition in the past years—for Noriega to leave the FDP command immediately.

The opposition, government, and FDP held unsuccessful rounds of dialogue between June and August 1989, under the auspices of the OAS. At that time, the PDC and its political allies insisted that Noriega's retirement was required to attain the country's democratization.

According to the negotiating parties and the mediating mission headed by Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, the inability to reach a basic understanding on this issue was the main reason for the failure of the OAS's efforts.

The PDC communique notes that "national unity" is needed to eliminate "all the sanctions" decreed by the United States to force Noriega to resign from the FDP command.

The PDC adds that, in addition to "national unity," it is necessary to demand that Washington comply with the 1977 canal treaties.

The communique states that 1989 has been "a year of great suffering" for Panamanians due to "human rights violations, unacceptance of the peoples' will as expressed on 7 May, imposition of an unconstitutional government on 1 September, economic collapse, and the manipulation of nationalism."

Thus, it proposes a dialogue with the FDP on human rights, a government of freely elected civilians, "national unity," and revision of the law that regulates the FDP—this time without including Noriega's withdrawal as a condition or a topic to be dicussed in the dialogue.

Crashed Helicopter Copilot Denies Ties to Contras

PA0812000689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2007 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Panama City, 7 Dec (ACAN-EFE)—Ney Escobar Alfaro, a Costa Rican who was the copilot of a helicopter that crashed in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Panama on 1 December, today denied any involvement in espionage activities against Panama or ties to the Nicaraguan contras.

Escobar said that he and Charles Stockwell, the U.S. pilot who was killed in the accident, were on their way to Panama to take care of some customs requirements to

register the aircraft in Costa Rica, where government officials had objected to the helicopter entry into the country 2 months ago.

Panamanian Prosecutor General Carlos Villalaz presented Escobar, 34, to the press today in the presence of Costa Rican Consul Fanny Chavarria Mendez and Luis Montes de Oca, charge d'affaires of the Costa Rican Embassy.

The Costa Rican copilot denied any ties to the contras, contrary to allegations made to that effect by progovernment Panamanian newspapers.

Escobar said: "I do not know anything about that." He insisted that the purpose of his trip to Panama was to accumulate some helicopter flight time and to accompany Stockwell while he took care of the necessary customs procedures to legally operate the helicopter in Costa Rica.

Escobar, who wore a blue flight suit, answered firmly all the questions posed by reporters. The wrecked aircraft was taken from the crash site to a parking lot at the Civil Aeronautics Directorate.

Escobar said that the accident was caused by "pilot error on the part of Stockwell" and said that the aircraft was not shot down. He added that he warned Stockwell several times that they were flying too low over the water but that Stockwell did not heed his warnings.

He also said they had previously made contact via radio with the Panamanian authorities in Bocas del Toro Province. They later lost contact, however, because of bad weather and their low altitude.

Escobar reported that they had tried to fly to Nicaragua to complete the Costa Rican customs requirement, but that the Nicaraguan authorities refused to allow the aircraft enter the country. Escobar and Stockwell returned to Costa Rica, where the helicopter did surveillance work during the Central American summit held in San Jose from 27-28 October.

Escobar said that to fly to Howard Air Force base, the aircraft's final destination, he had the authorization of his superior, Armando Quesada, chief pilot of the Public Security Ministry's air section.

He explained he did not know why Stockwell chose Howard as their destination and that the aircraft, although in the service of a corporation called Agroservicios Helicopteros de Costa Rica, S.A., still retained its U.S. registration number, N98024.

After the helicopter crashed, Escobar tried to assist Stockwell, but the latter's body sank. Escobar then swam for several minutes toward the coast before he was rescued by Panama Defense Forces members before he reached shore.

According to local newspapers, the rescue operation was hampered by U.S. helicopters, whose crews also tried to rescue Escobar and Stockwell.

Prosecutor Villalaz told ACAN-EFE that an inquiry is being conducted to determine whether the helicopter entered Panamanian airspace legally and whether the two crewmen's flight plans were "legal." Escobar reported that Panamanian authorities have treated him "well" so far.

Government Official on U.S. Ban on Ships

PA0812035489 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Dec 89

[Text] Jorge Panay, deputy minister of planning and economic policy, has stated that Panamanian private businesses are the hardest hit by the U.S. Government ban on Panamanian-registered vessels. He added that such action has caused an international reaction by ship builders and shipping companies.

[Begin recording] [Panay] The measure taken against Panamanian-registered ships is another step in the escalation of the U.S. economic aggression. In addition to harming Panama's finances, I think the United States is violating international business law and international free-trade agreements.

This measure affects mostly Panamanian and international private businesses, and thousands of ship builders and bankers who trusted Panamanian legislation for many years, and the effectiveness of the same, not only in fulfilling the objectives of an investor, but also in creating better conditions in relations among nations.

Moreover, with this measure, the United States has confirmed once again its lack of vision in its war against the people and the Government of Panama, and particularly against its own internal allies, largely affected by this measure.

Most of the flag-registering business is in the hands of sectors related to and close to the Panamanian opposition, whose businesses we have always respected. This measure affects them the most, but it also affects other U.S. allies, because these Panamanian-registered vessels do not work for Panama, but for the transportation of merchandise to and from the United States and for U.S. international trade with other nations. [end recording]

Argentina

'Text' of Argentine-British Joint Declaration

PY0712185389 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 7 Dec 89 p 14

[Text] Montevideo (ANSA)—Herewith is the text of the joint declaration issued last night in Montevideo by the diplomatic and military delegations from Argentina and the United Kingdom which for 2 days studied the way to normalize bilateral relations:

1. As announced by Argentina and the United Kingdom in the joint declaration issued in Madrid on 19 October 1989, an Argentine-British work group met in Montevideo on 5-6 December to discuss ways of creating trust and avoiding military incidents. The work group has examined proposals from both countries and has agreed that some measures will be examined by the two governments. These measures seek to increase maritime navigation and air flight safety in the South Atlantic, especially in emergency cases. The measures also seek to avoid incidents.

2. The two delegations have agreed that the meetings provided a good opportunity to make progress in this field, considering the need to adopt other measures and to carefully prepare for a second summit meeting in Madrid for 14 and 15 February 1990. The two delegations agreed that the work group should meet again before the Madrid summit meeting to prepare a final document for the two governments; the date and place of the work group's second meeting will be announced soon.

3. The meetings were held within a cordial and constructive spirit, and the two delegations reasserted their wish to promote the process of normalization of relations between Argentina and the United Kingdom. The two delegations thanked the government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay for its hospitality.

Israeli President Herzog Continues Visit

Herzog Addresses Congress

PY0712161289 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0434 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (DYN)—Today President Carlos Menem and his Israeli counterpart, Hayim Herzog, held their second and final meeting. They discussed bilateral relations and the political situation in the Middle East.

In a speech to a special congressional session in his honor, Herzog described Argentina as a country of "tolerance," adding that he favors "greater rapprochement" between the two countries. The Israeli president will end the official part of his visit to Argentina tomorrow.

Within the framework of courtesy visits planned in his agenda, Herzog visited the Argentine Congress in the morning. He then met with Menem at Government House, after which he hosted a luncheon for his Argentime counterpart. Herzog also visited the Supreme Court of Justice.

"We are very interested in the peace proposal made in Belgrade. We have given Menem a special invitation to visit our country. As a world leader, he could make an important contribution to the search for a solution to the problem of our peoples," Herzog said a few minutes before hosting a luncheon for Menem and his wife Zulema Yoma in the Palace Hotel.

In addition to politicians and congressmen, the luncheon was attended by former President Raul Alfonsin; Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo; Labor Minister Jorge Triaca; Defense Minister Italo Luder; Education and Justice Minister Antonio Salonia; Saul Ubaldini, leader of the General Confederation of Labor; Apostolic Nuncio Ubaldo Calabressi; members of the Supreme Court of Justice, and some military chiefs.

Justicialist Senator Alicia Saadi walked out of the congressional session because she was "offended" by the Israeli president's statements on the Middle East conflict.

"I could not remain in the congress hall when the Israeli president's speech did not belong in the context of a welcome session," Senator Saadi said.

Menem and Herzog met from 1130 to 1220. Foreign Minister Cavallo was present. Although no statements were made after the meeting, it is thought that the two presidents discussed the [words indistinct] between Argentina and Israel.

They also discussed Menem's trip to Israel next year, especially in light of Menem's offer to mediate the Middle East conflict. Menem will try to seek an agreement.

Following yesterday's meeting at Government House, Menem reaffirmed his willingness to "personally mediate" between Israel and the Arab countries to help reach "peace but taking into consideration the rights of the two parties."

Menem then pointed out the need to recognize the State of Israel "within its borders" as well as "the Palestinian people's right to self-determination."

In his message to congress, Herzog said that Argentina is "a country of tolerance." After stating that he favors "greater rapprochement" between the two countries, he expressed his happiness at being "in a land that has opened its doors and received with open arms suffering and persecuted people from many countries."

Meanwhile, Vice President Eduardo Duhalde said that Argentina "will be happy to see some substantial progress in the trade, scientific, and technological

exchange between the two countries." He said he trusts that "the fourth meeting of the joint Argentine-Israeli committee for technical and economic cooperation—which will take place in Buenos Aires in 1990—will be a good opportunity to consolidate this exchange."

Herzog said: "We, a small country besieged by internal and external problems, constantly slandered in the international community, are proud of our achievement of having formed a democratic, open, and free society."

The Israeli president hailed Argentina as "aware of its important role in the Latin American continent. He acknowledged "Argentina's growing importance in international forums, which reflects the traditional cultures of its people and its national inheritance." [quotation marks as received]

Herzog will conclude his official visit to Argentina tomorrow, but he will remain for 2 more days touring Bariloche and Iguazu.

Menem Interviewed on Mideast

PY0712121489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0106 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (Telam)—President Carlos Menem today said Argentina has not received "any pressure" from Arab states or the PLO regarding Israeli President Hayim Herzog's visit to Argentina.

During an extensive interview with the Israeli press, which was later released by the presidential office, Menem said: "As president of a sovereign country, I am not going to tolerate pressure from any individual or government, no matter how powerful."

[Words indistinct] Middle East, Menem said he had talked with leaders from both the Jewish and Arab international communities. He added: "All of them support the attitude being upheld by Argentina and its president."

Menem admitted that "there are specific issues" to be raised in these negotiations. However, he said that it is still "premature" to discuss those issues. He added that he "trusts we may be able to achieve something before September" when he is scheduled to visit the Middle East.

[Words indistinct] answering a question that the Syrian position may frustrate the possibilities of peace, Menem added that he had met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Assad during a visit to Syria in 1988. Menem said that during this meeting they "discussed the possibility of achieving peace."

Menem said: "If I assume this responsibility—and I hope I will be officially entrusted with this mission—it is because I am certain that there are possibilities to achieve a rapprochement, an opening, an understanding. Otherwise, the mission would be senseless."

Menem Announces New Housing, Work Plan

PY0712172989 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1550 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Dec (NA)—President Carlos Menem today announced that 6,000 homes will be constructed between 1990 and 1995. He also stressed his desire to eliminate violence from the country, "including the violence created by the lack of work."

The president said, "There are 9 million Argentines living in extreme poverty as a result of many years of negligence," adding that for the past 3 years "no child vaccination campaign has been carried out, there has been a shortage of medicines, and the standard of the state hospitals has seriously deteriorated."

Menem was speaking in the White Hall of the Government House on the government's plan for the next few months in the field of health and social action. He also evaluated the work done in this field over the past 5 months.

During the ceremony the president was accompanied by Health and Social Action Minister Erman Gonzalez, Labor Minister Jorge Triaca, Health Secretary Matilde Menendez, and other high-ranking officials.

This is how the "Llancay"—the Quechua [as received] word for "work"—plan was launched today. This plan includes the creation of small productive units which will replace the social assistance program. The first phase of the plan requires an investment of 10 billion australes, which will be financed by the National Savings and Insurance Fund.

The plan seeks to help poor families by letting them buy machinery and tools that will allow them to manufacture marketable goods.

Menem said that the government intends to create "a powerful Argentina" sustained "by the peace generated from work and not from war, as has occurred in other countries."

He added that state transformation has a deep social meaning and reiterated his commitment to attain a "profound" change, seeking especially "to benefit the poorest sectors."

Menem indicated that during the 5 months that his government has been in power, the amount of funds slated for the health sector in the provinces is twice as much as that sent during the previous 18 months.

He recalled the Blue and White Bond for medicines; the vaccination campaigns; the creation of the Solidarity Bond—which has helped 850,000 families; and the inauguration of the Institutes for Minors, hospitals, and the policy for the old and the incapacitated.

He stated that the National Food Plan (PAN) was done away with "because of its much publicized problems," but he maintained that "we are going to reinforce the

food plan" by sending the funds that were allocated for the PAN program to the provinces so that they can develop their own programs.

"We do not forget the hungry Argentines," he added, and he pointed out the panorama that the government had encountered in the housing sector on 8 July when he took over. He stated that there was "insufficiency" in the sector.

He announced the creation of a plan in which, between 1990 and 1995, 630,000 housing units will be constructed—of which 270,000 will be for the poorer sectors.

He stated that the funds for the Housing Plan will be sought both at home and abroad. The creation of projects for the sale of plots of land, and the promotion of various types of construction will also be put into operation.

Although he acknowledged that the Llancay program is not an immediate solution for the existing shortage, he said that this is the way we must go in order to implement what he called "the culture of work."

Finally, he stated that "it is necessary" to deal with the scourge of unemployment and he indicated that the government will do everything to end unemployment.

Foreign Minister Meets Mexican Counterpart

PY0712220589 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1814 GMT 5 Dec 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Dec (DYN)—It was officially reported that Argentine Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today met with his Mexican counterpart Fernando Solanas to discuss bilateral relations and cooperation in the political, technical-scientific, economic and cultural areas.

It has also been reported that the two foreign ministers will head a binational commission for political and economic coordination which is expected to begin operations before the visit of Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to Argentina in mid-1990. He has been invited by President Carlos Menem.

Cavallo and Solana discussed bilateral matters within the framework of the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Permanent Mechanism of Political Consultation and Agreement of the Group of Eight, which concluded in Buenos Aires today after 2 days of talks.

A document was released at the Alvear Palace Hotel where the meeting was held. It indicates that the two foreign ministers agree "to strengthen economic and commercial activity between their two countries. They also emphasize the importance of this action within the framework of regional integration."

The document also says that the Argentine delegation reiterates its interest in obtaining a compensatory agreement that would allow the construction of the Loma la Lata gas pipeline (Neuba II) according to the original proposal.

An agreement was also reached by the two ministers to review bilateral trade and ways to complement the two economies. A bilateral meeting will be held "not later than April" of next year.

The issue of cooperation in the energy field, which "covers cooperation in the fields of nuclear energy, oil prospecting, and oil exploitation," was also discussed.

Regarding scientific and technical integration, the two delegations agreed to promote the fields of computer science and biotechnology. They also see the need to explore "new actions in relation to assembly industries and the social sector of the economy."

The two foreign ministers recognize the progress made over the last few years in the bilateral cultural exchange programs that were promoted by the Group of Rio. They also agreed to promote tourism.

Government Sends Gendarmerie Unit to Rosario

PY0812021889 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2148 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Dec (TELAM)—Today the government dispatched a gendarmerie unit to Rosario at the request of the Governor of Santa Fe, Victor Reviglio, to prevent possible incidents, encouraged by activists, during the soccer game between the teams of Newell's Old Boys and Rosario Central this coming Sunday.

As he made the announcement this afternoon at the government house, Interior Minister Eduardo Bauza said that the 50-man contingent sent to Rosario will reinforce the local police. He reported that "pamphlets have been distributed in the poor neighborhoods of Rosario, inciting people to acts of violence against shops and supermarkets." Consequently, at the request of the provincial governor, a gendarmerie contingent has been dispatched to help maintain order, if necessary.

Minister Bauza explained that "the population does not want more violence, and it has not heeded the calls made in pamphlets. We believe that the situation is under control, and the most needy sectors are being assisted with food and medicine." He pointed out that the pamphlets bear no identification, but encourage the people to take by assault the food markets and supermarkets. "These pamphlets," he said, "were distributed in Buenos Aires a month ago, are now being distributed in Rosario, and tomorrow could show up in Cordoba or Tucuman."

As for the possible economic adjustment that, according to rumors, might be made by the Economy Ministry, Minister Bauza declined giving an opinion until such an adjustment is in fact made. He denied that there are

differences between the head of the executive branch and the ministry headed by Nestor Rapanelli, because "the economic adjustment should be intended to keep social peace."

Minister Bauza then stressed that "the Cabinet is completely united behind the single idea of providing a better standard of living to the Argentine people."

General Reports 'No Incidents'

PY0812022589 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2310 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Santa Fe, 7 Dec (TELAM)—Army II Corps Commander Brigadier General Hugo Savino Fernandez has asserted that there were no incidents in the outskirts of Rosario, but said that the preventive measures adopted by the provincial government "are appropriate." He added that these measures "will dissuade the professional agitators who are perhaps inciting people to illegal acts." He then reiterated that the Army does not intend to participate in the preventive tasks.

General Fernandez made declarations to the press after installing Lieutenant Colonel Pedro Lopez as new chief of the Amphibious Unit in Santo Tome, replacing Lieutenant Colonel Gustavo Cacivio.

Embalse Nuclear Plant Resumes Operations

PY0712114889 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2210 GMT 6 Dec 89

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 Dec (NA)—Energy Secretary Julio Cesar Araoz has reported that the Embalse nuclear plant, which went down 4 December, resumed operations at 1300 today and that, thanks to this event, the "electric emergency has been overcome."

"Nevertheless, the electric situation can become complicated as December goes by because this is the most critical period of the year, a period during which the system will be vulnerable," Araoz admitted.

Araoz pointed out that, for the time being, the energy system is "under control." He said that if the users help by curbing their demand and by rationally using electricity, "we will have no problem guaranteeing the supply."

"In sum, the system is still experiencing a deficit basically due to the high thermic unavailability although the situation is under control," Araoz said.

The energy secretary asked consumers to use electricity "in a rational way and to avoid all nonessential consumption, such as air conditioning."

Araoz also stressed that the power grid received a vital boost following the activation of the Puerto Nuevo No 8 unit, which supplies 194 megawatts, permitting the generation of the maximum thermoelectricity possible."

The energy secretary said that now that the Embalse nuclear plant has resumed operations, it will be possible to reallocate the operational reserves that, over the past 24 hours, replaced the nuclear power supply."

Bolivia

Major Drug Traffickers Arrested, Lab Destroyed

PY0812120089 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 29 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] In accordance with the antidrug policy enforced by the government, the under secretary of social defense announced yesterday the arrest of two important drug traffickers who are involved in court cases in Bolivia and the United States.

Gonzalo Torrico, along with Interior Under Secretary Raul Loayza and Justice Under Secretary Roger Pando, reported that one arrestee was identified as Juan Carlos Lisboa Melgar. He is considered one of the five most important drug traffickers in Bolivia. He was arrested early morning yesterday in La Playa region in Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

Torrico also reported that another drug trafficker identified as Roman Coimbra Saldana, who is a fugitive from Bolivian justice, was also arrested in Santa Cruz. Torrico noted that the two drug traffickers will be taken to La Paz today to be presented to the press this afternoon. They will then be transferred to the jurisdiction of the attorney general's office in accordance with Law 1008.

Torrico added that intelligence personnel of the Special Force for the Struggle Against Drug Trafficking had the two drug traffickers under surveillance before arresting them early morning yesterday without any violence or resistance. He said that the two men had moved around that region freely.

Torrico said that Lisboa owns a clandestine cocaine lab which is four times larger than the one in Huachaca. The lab was known as Lago Oceano. He said that the cocaine was taken to the United States through Mexico. Officials have been after Lisboa for the last 2 years as a result of court cases for drug trafficking in Bolivia and the United States. Torrico said that it is premature to talk about Lisboa's possible extradition to the United States.

He added that antidrug organizations have been after Coimbra Saldana because drug trafficking charges have been filed against him in Bolivian and U.S. courts.

When Coimbra Saldana was arrested he was carrying weapons and high-frequency communications equipment.

It has also been reported that the Special Force for the Struggle Against Drug Trafficking destroyed an important cocaine lab near the Ilusion Ranch located between

the Sucre and Tijamuche Rivers in Beni Department. This lab can produce 1,000 kg of cocaine per week. The police made no arrests because those involved in processing the cocaine were able to escape.

The following precursors and equipment were destroyed:

Four wooden structures used as dormitories with 12 wooden beds, mattresses, and blankets, thirty-two drug filters, 2 centrifugal pumps, 40 gas ovens and bottled gas for cocaine production, two generators, 1,000 liters of sulfuric ether, 1,000 liters of acetone, 80 liters of sulfuric acid, 10 containers of rich water, 300 kg of potassium permanganate, an outboard motor, 2 pulleys, battery chargers, a water pump, 350 liters of ammonia, and 150 liters of acetone.

Bilateral Debt With Brazil Renegotiated

PY0712205089 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 30 Nov 89 p 1

[Excerpt] In a joint declaration signed in Brasilia yesterday, the Foreign Ministers of Bolivia and Brazil, Carlos Iturralde and Roberto de Abreu Sodre, respectively, agreed that the accumulated debt of $41.7 million that fell due 31 August 1989 would be consolidated with the debt falling due between that date and 31 December 1989, and then refinanced.

The Foreign Ministry has released a communique that partially reproduces the joint declaration in which it is agreed that the service of the debt under the reciprocal credits agreement can be made current through an immediate payment of $5.0 million and six subsequent payments every 4 months until the overdue debt is totally canceled.

As for the debt that will mature over the 1990-1996 period, its repayment can be optionally made by exchanging Brazilian debt notes bought on the secondary market by Bolivia for papers of the Bolivian bilateral debt with Brazil. [passage omitted]

Brazil

PSDB Decides To Support Popular Front's Lula

PY0612182989 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0830 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Text] The National Directorate of the PSDB [Brazilian Democratic Socialist Party] has decided to support the candidate for the Brazil Popular Front, Luis Inacio da Silva, Lula.

The note issued after the National Directorate meeting, however, notes the differences between the PSDB government program and that of the Brazil Popular Front, and asks all parties that make up the front to condemn all forms of violence in the electoral campaign. The note states that the party's participation in the campaign depends on the nature of regional problems. It provides an alert against the use of vetos, and it reasserts the PSDB position in favor of the parliamentary system and its doctrinary position as a social democratic party. However, Senator Mario Covas has not yet decided whether he will appear on campaign platforms with Lula.

[Begin Covas recording] The National Directorate has adopted a rule by which I will abide, independent of any other consideration; that is, I will explicitly ask the people to vote for Luis Inacio da Silva, Lula, because my party recommends the people vote for him. I myself would vote for him. Anything further will depend on various factors that must be taken into consideration. I will abide, however, by the note. [end recording]

Senator Mario Covas affirmed that if he were invited to talk with the Brazil Popular Front, he will go only if accompanied by his party's National Directorate.

Chile

Christian Democrats Issue Statement on Coalition

PY0712130089 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Excerpts] A week before the general elections, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has stressed its leading role in the opposition despite the permanent maneuvers of the PPD [Party for Democracy], led by Marxist Ricardo Lagos.

Andres Zaldivar, whose popularity among voters seems to be surpassed by that of Lagos in western Santiago, read a statement in which the PDC analyzed the political situation and the circumstances—after 11 September 1973—that led to the elections. [passage omitted]

To maintain the feeling of unity in the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD], Zaldivar said that the coalition has solid foundations and that it has no ideological commitments, despite the fact that it is made up of 17 parties.

[Begin Zaldivar recording] The CPPD has no ideological commitment. Its objective is to enforce a government program. Our commitment to this program, which has been designed on the basis of technical and democratic principles, eliminates the possibility that a party may predominate in the coalition. It also eliminates the danger of shifting toward any ideology. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Two Polls Predict Runoff Elections Necessary

PY0812005689 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] The international pollsters Salas-Reyes have forecast that the presidential elections in Chile will require a runoff. This opinion was shared by other surveyors of public opinion. The Salas-Reyes poll was conducted only in Santiago and Valparaiso. Horacio Salas-Reyes, the director of the organization, reported that the survey was

based on cross-questions that showed that 17 percent of those surveyed did not have a clear idea of whom they liked most for president.

However, after a careful study of the answers of those who had stated their preferences clearly, the following forecast was made: Patricio Aylwin would get 47.1 percent of the votes cast; Hernan Buchi would get 23.6 percent; and Errazuriz would get 22.3 percent. Thus, according to the survey in Santiago and Valparaiso, a runoff would be necessary.

The (Invest-Merc) [expansion unknown] company has also reported that its most recent surveys indicate that the presidential elections will require a runoff. After surveying 2,927 people throughout Chile, 7.1 percent of who were undecided, the company concluded that none of the candidates will obtain an absolute majority. According to the survey, Hernan Buchi would get 38.9 percent of the votes; Francisco Javier Errazuriz would get 14.4 percent; and Patricio Aylwin would get 46.7 percent.

(Invest-Merc) reported that Patricio Aylwin could prevent a runoff only if he managed to attract 69 percent of those undecided.

Costaval Installed as New Finance Minister

PY0712180389 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Former Budget Department Director Martin Costaval has been sworn in as the new finance minister. Costaval replaces General Enrique Seguel. He was sworn in during a private ceremony at the La Moneda Palace. He said that his designation will not bring about any changes in the economic policy, adding that he has worked with Gen Seguel. He commented that the work by the Ministry will continue along the same lines.

Costaval was the manager of the (Pizarrenos) private company. He said that his designation came as a surprise for him and that he has for a long time worked for the public sector. He noted that it is wise to designate an experienced person for a ministerial term that will be relatively short. [passage omitted]

Colombia

President Barco Asks All Governors To Resign

PA0812020689 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0008 GMT 8 Dec 89

[Text] Relations between President Barco's government and the National Congress have worsened. In an unusual move by his administration, President Barco, who is currently in Tokyo, has asked all governors to resign.

Most governors are proposed by congressmen, and their appointments are frequently made in exchange for votes and support for the national government in the parliament.

This week the Chamber of Representatives contravened the government by approving the inclusion of the extradition issue in the referendum scheduled for January. Punishment for that decision was meted out today.

Eduardo Aldana was appointed governor of Tolima today. However, it is not clear if he will take office or if he will have to resign before assuming that position.

President Barco Holds News Conference in Japan

PA0712155889 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1227 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Report by correspondent Francisco Tulande on news conference by President Virgilio Barco in Tokyo on 7 December]

[Text] Colombian President Virgilio Barco has advanced his return to the country by 10 hours, meaning he has cancelled some events he was scheduled to attend in Tokyo. He will return to Colombia around noon on 9 December. He was initially scheduled to return around midnight.

President Barco told the international community today that in no way will Colombia accept the intervention of foreign troops to fight terrorism, violence, and organized crime. During a news conference with Japanese and foreign media representatives in Tokyo, President Barco also said that the Liberal Party will probably win the 1990 presidential elections because it has capable people and is the majority party. He also referred to a midair plane explosion—a terrorist action, in his words—and the attack perpetrated against the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] headquarters in Bogota with approximately 500 kg of explosives.

President Barco will return to Bogota at 0900 on 9 December. He will depart from Narita Airport, located 2 hours from Tokyo, [words indistinct] meeting with Japanese investors and possible buyers of Colombian coffee. The event was organized by the Colombian Coffee Growers Association and the Gran Colombian Merchant Fleet's representatives in the Far East.

[Begin recording] [Barco] Approximately 2 weeks ago an airplane exploded while taking off from Bogota. Experts who came from many parts of the world have discovered that it was caused by a bomb placed on board, rather than by a problem of pressurization.

The other case is the attack perpetrated last night, 2 nights ago [corrects himself], against the intelligence headquarters of the national police. You have read or reported that a large amount... [changes thought] about 500 kg of dynamite placed in a truck exploded and caused the collapse or considerable damage of the general headquarters of the Colombian intelligence services.

The terrorist attack was perpetrated against the offices of the DAS, which is, as I said before, where the most important intelligence activities against organized crime and drug trafficking are carried out.

Most of the victims of this truck bomb were defenseless persons who were heading for the downtown area. They were passersby on their way to work, or already at work. They are innocent victims of a mafia that, through violence, believes it can make the country yield. The government immediately began taking steps to rebuild what was destroyed and help the intelligence service recover its operational capacity as soon as possible. Colombia is not unprotected—despite the bloody, cruel, and absurd attacks like the one you have just described which was carried out the night before last by the drug traffickers.

[Reporter] I understand that all this is [words indistinct]. Am I right?

[Barco] Yes.

[Reproter] [Words indistinct] of THE JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL. I have learned that your term in office ends next year. It has been said that after the assassination of Luis Carlos Galan, who it seems was the choice to run in the next elections, there is no one to replace him or any other candidate who is willing to continue the all-out war against the drug lords. How do you feel about this? Is the government bent on continuing its struggle against the drug lords? The second question is: Is there a possibility that the United States will intervene in Colombia by sending troops there?

[Barco] It is true that my term in office ends on 7 August 1990. In Colombia there is no re-election. The Constitution does not allow consecutive terms in office. You may run again, but there must be at least a full term in between. I can answer that question without even thinking.

The candidate for the Liberal Party—the largest party in Colombia—has not been chosen. With its majority of votes, the Liberal Party apparently has a good chance of choosing the next president. There are two, three, or four presidential hopefuls at this time. They are traveling around the country, presenting their platforms, making their promises, and seeking a majority of votes. The party convention to choose a candidate will be held in the 2d or 3d month of next year, and the elections will be held shortly after that. The presidential hopefuls are all competent men and good Liberal Party—my party—members. I am sure that the party will know how to choose the best man, a man who will continue to try to solve the drug problem. This is a problem that has caused tremendous international damage; however, Colombia does not have that problem. The use of drugs is not common among the Colombian youths. We hope that the man chosen to represent the party that will probably win, the Liberal Party, will continue to struggle for the party goals.

In answer to the second question asked by the distinguished representative of THE JAPAN ECONOMIC JOURNAL on the possibility of U.S. intervention, Colombia is a democracy, and it has protected its democracy throughout the past 170 years. It is the strongest democracy in Latin America. It has never allowed anyone to meddle in its domestic affairs, and on this occasion, under no circumstances will Colombia allow troops from other countries to come to Colombia. The Colombians are capable of handling the situation. We have the will and determination to put an end to that poison that is spreading among the young people of the world. Fortunately, despite everything, drug consumption is very low in Colombia. However, we must fulfill our duty to the young of the world as well as to the homeland. We must defend the homeland and the young from these drug traffickers, who—in addition to making huge profits from this business—are also corrupting the world's youth.

Therefore, there is no possibility that the United States will intervene. The Colombian Government, the Colombian people, Colombia as a nation, is struggling against the drug traffickers. We will do it alone, and we will win. Thank you. [end recording]

Death Toll From 6 Dec Explosion Reaches 52

PA0712143489 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1205 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] The explosion of a truck bomb of more than 500 kg of dynamite in front of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] installations yesterday has left in its wake 52 dead, more than 400 injured, more than 1,000 homeless, and losses of approximately 1.5 billion pesos.

According to the report from the mayor of Bogota, the explosion caused damage at the DAS installations, the DATT [Administrative Department of Traffic and Transportation] installations, and at warehouses, stores, and houses in approximately 27 blocks of the Bogota sector of Palo Quemado. The explosion also damaged 52 vehicles and made a hole measuring 13 meters long and 11 meters wide in front of the DAS offices.

The National Directorate for Criminal Investigations immediately formed a commission of three public order judges and three criminal investigation judges who, supported by 15 other judges, will be in charge of the investigation.

Four persons suspected of participating in the terrorist attack on the DAS installations, which resulted in 52 deaths and 400 injured, will be turned over to two public order judges in a few hours. According to the information supplied by Bogota Metropolitan Police Chief Colonel Nacim Ianine Diaz, four unidentified persons thought to have participated in the criminal action are currently under arrest at the DIJIN [Directorate of Judicial and Investigative Police].

The officer also said that approximately 500 kg of dynamite were detonated inside a Dodge bus that was stolen some days ago and was owned by the National Water and Sewers Enterprise, with license plates EL-9145 and AS-3079.

Basque Terrorist Suspected

PA0812025589 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0013 GMT 8 Dec 89

[Text] Investigations continue to determine who placed a bomb in front of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] facilities.

According to the DAS director, a Spanish terrorist and ETA [Basque Fatherland and Liberty] member who could have advised the Colombians on the preparation of the car bomb has been identified.

DAS Director General Miguel Maza Marquez attended the funeral of his subordinates and fellow workers who were killed as a result of an explosion in front of the DAS facilities. At the end of the religious ceremony, Gen Maza said that he does not rule out the possibility that foreign terrorists participated in the attempt on his life.

[Begin Maza recording] There are indications that this could be so, because the methods and system used to fabricate the car bomb lead us to believe that they were experts in this type of activity. [end recording]

Gen Maza, with sadness in his eyes, added that he will continue working in the same office where the attack occurred.

Churches, Anticommunist Group Bombed in Medellin

PA0712195189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] In Medellin, intensive operations are under way at this moment to find the culprits in four bombings. Explosives were placed in various sections of the city; three religious centers, two stores, and a private residence were affected. Over to Gladys Vargas for more details:

[Begin Vargas recording] The group called People's Militias claimed credit on various radio stations for the rash of dynamite bombings last night in Medellin, describing these actions as a way to protest against yesterday's attack on the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] headquarters in Bogota, and to express repudiation for the U.S. intervention in El Salvador and Colombia.

The bombs began exploding at approximately 1900. Seven explosions, one after the other, were heard in several sections of the city. However, the authorities have reported only four bombings.

Three of these bombings were aimed at religious institutions; that is, two against evangelical churches and one against the headquarters of Tradition, Family, and Property [Tradicion, Familia, y Propiedad], which is openly anticommunist and had been engaged in the last few days in a propaganda campaign against the government's agreements with the M-19 [19 April Movement]. The damages there amount to $19 million. In addition, two motorcycles were set on fire by the explosion. Another attack took place against the Filis Wholesale and Liquor Store in the city's downtown area. Losses have been initially estimated at $15 million. Fortunately, there were no deaths or injuries in any of the bombings.

According to residents where the bombs exploded, the culprits were young people who went about on foot and in groups of three. The authorities reported the arrest of one person who is accused of participating in the attacks, but no information has been released so far. [end recording]

Remote Control Bomb Set Against Police Patrol

PA0812024189 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0014 GMT 8 Dec 89

[Text] A bomb operated by remote control was set off against a police patrol in Bolivar Department, killing two agents and wounding another.

The attack occurred at 0600 while patrol 711 was on a routine mission near the La Popa Hill. The bomb was activated by remote control more than 50 meters from where it exploded.

Sergeant Samuel Arias Castro and driver Hernando Gonzalez Castro died in the attack, and Agent Edwin Matos Aumento was wounded.

Pamphlets of the self-styled Army of National Liberation [ELN] were found on the slopes of La Popa Hill. However, no terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Argana Denies Resignation Rumor

PY0712211689 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 7 Dec 89 p 13

[Excerpt] Dr Luis Maria Argana today denied rumors of his imminent resignation from the post of foreign minister in the wake of the political situation within the Republican National Association. His terse reply to the journalists' question of whether the rumors were true was "they are not true."

Asked where he felt more comfortable, in politics or in the Foreign Ministry, Argana said: "I would say that at this time I feel more comfortable at the Foreign Ministry. Politics is 'stirred up' at this time."

Asked, once more, if there is a possiblity that he may resign to go into politics full-time, the foreign minister said: "The question here is not whether to resign or not. Under the Constitution, the nation's president appoints and removes the ministers. The ministers then are subject to the president's decision."

He was then asked what he would do if he were removed from the post. Smiling, he replied: "If I am removed, I am removed. What could I do? But what a question to ask!"

Asked if, in that eventual situation, he would devote himself to politics, Argana answered: "Of course; I am political man. I am also a lawyer, and I could again practice my profession." [passage omitted]

Argana Tenders Resignation

PY0812001189 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 8 Dec 89 p 14

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana tendered his resignation yesterday. It is now up to the president to decide whether or not to accept Argana's resignation. Until then, the situation is under study because there is opposition to the idea of installing a coalition government.

Argana tendered his resignation to the president yesterday morning during a meeting at Government House. According to reliable sources, they discussed the issue exhaustively. The sources added that Argana's letter of resignation is dated 6 December and in it he explains that he is resigning because of recent political events.

Perhaps because his situation is still undefined, Minister Argana yesterday denied rumors of his resignation to journalists accredited to Government House stating: "You are aware that the Constitution empowers the president to appoint and dismiss cabinet members. Cabinet members are thus subjected to the decisions of the president because we are living in a constitutional order. [passage omitted]

Union Leader Requests Venezuelan Embassy Asylum

PY0712201489 Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish 1857 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Efigenio Lisboa, a well-known and controversial union leader who is not recognized [niegan representatividad] [as heard] by his fellow union leaders, has requested political asylum at the Venezuelan Embassy. Lisboa, who works in the eastern region of the country, is general secretary of the Alto Parana and Canindeyu Regional Labor Confederation.

In a note addressed to the Venezuelan ambassador in Asuncion, Lisboa explains the reasons for this request. Lisboa states that in July 1989 he was arrested by the military. He adds he was held incommunicado for 25 days on charges of promoting a mutiny in Ciudad del Este [former Ciudad Puerto Presidente Stroessner]. Lisboa also charges that the Ciudad del Este government delegate conspires with employers to exploit workers unjustly and illegally. Lisboa adds that in August several suits were raised against him and 15 fellow union leaders on charges of rape, assault and battery, theft, and unlawful association for criminal purposes. He says that because of those charges, he and his fellow union leaders were sentenced to 55 days in jail, where they were subjected to inhuman treatment.

Lisboa explains that all his personal and union documents were seized while he was under arrest at the presidential guard and that they have not yet been returned.

In the note, Lisboa says he is requesting the aid of a sister country that upholds democracy and human rights. He adds: In view of this, we have decided to address you and the country you represent and to request political asylum for myself and for my fellow union leaders, because we are subjected to political persecution for confronting the oligarchy and the ruling capitalist system.

Lisboa also requests that the Venezuelan Embassy offer safety to himself and his fellow union leaders as they move from the location of the strike at the Itaipu Dam construction site to the embassy in Asuncion, where they will continue with the political asylum proceedings so they can later travel to Venezuela.

The above was contained in a note submitted by Efigenio Jose Lisboa Carvallo, identification card No 732,684.

Primero de Marzo will try to contact the Venezuelan Embassy in Asuncion to learn the proceedings for the request for asylum that was submitted to the Venezuelan Embassy.

Navy Commander Criticizes 'Intolerant Attitudes'

PY0712134889 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Dec 89 p 7

[Excerpt] Yesterday Navy Commander Rear Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit harshly criticized those who "do not realize that democracy also means working hard, respecting each other, and complying with the duties of a good citizen." He criticized those who "adopt violent ideas and intolerant attitudes that cause personal offense and lead to destructive situations that delay the country's development." Gonzalez Petit voiced this criticism during President Rodriguez' visit to the Navy facilities to dedicate units.

The Navy commander pointed out, "It is a great honor and a privilege to command this unit that does its professional duties with a united spirit, discipline, and respect for all Paraguayans. This unit also maintains the same dynamic spirit that President Rodriguez is stamping on the country despite the lack of understanding of certain sectors and certain people."

Gonzalez Petit emphatically told President Rodriguez, "I want to express our firm determination to continue obeying your orders because we realize that, satisfying the yearnings of all Paraguayans, you want to continue the extraordinarily patriotic task started on that historic day—3 February 1989—despite all difficulties that may arise." On the occasion, President Rodriguez dedicated the building destined to house the headquarters of the Naval Studies Institutes Command [Comando de Institutos Navales de Ensenanza—CINAE]. The facility

includes 2,000 square meters of newly-built space and 500 square meters of remodeled buildings. [passage omitted]

Minister Resigns From Colorado Party Board

PY0712135889 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Dec 89 p 4

[Excerpt] According to Colorado Party sources, Education and Culture Minister Dionisio Gonzalez Torres yesterday resigned from the Colorado Party Executive Board.

He apparently resigned in order to concentrate on his ministerial duties and in response to President Rodriguez' demand that executive branch members choose between government and party tasks. [passage omitted]

Peru

Garcia's Economic Policy Under Criticism

PY0712165389 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1852 GMT 6 Dec 89

[Excerpt] Lima, 6 Dec (AFP)—The free market exchange rate today made an unprecedented climb to 15,300 intis to the dollar in Lima, amid speculations that it could reach 20,000 intis by Christmas.

According to experts, if this trend continues until the next general elections the rate could reach 50,000 intis.

"This situation results from hyperinflation and the people's desire to protect their money," independent economist Cesar Awapara has said. Awapara is a constant critic of President Alan Garcia's economic policy and he blames Garcia for overvaluing the currency for election purposes.

Economy Minister Cesar Vasquez, who has been asked to resign by businessmen and opposition congressmen, said that "we are witnessing speculation, and we will adopt measures to stop it," however, the minister did not specify what measures will be adopted.

The official dollar exchange rate from the Single Exchange Market (MUC) stands at 4,772 intis to the dollar. According to official statistics, the inflation process has [words indistinct] 2,950 percent in the past 12 months.

According to experts, the free market dollar exchange rate has climbed faster than inflation.

The dollar exchange rate was 1,825 intis in January 1989. It had climbed to 6,300 intis by the beginning of November, and to 13,000 intis by the end of November. [passage omitted]

Government Negotiates With IMF on Foreign Debt

PY0712181589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0048 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Washington, 6 Dec (EFE)—Peru is negotiating with the IMF to normalize outstanding payments on foreign debt. These overdue payments total $1.64 billion.

This information was given by Peruvian Vice Presidents Luis Alberto Sanchez and Luis Alva Castro.

The two vice presidents held a news conference in which they reported that the Peruvian Government is negotiating an agreement with the IMF to obtain international support and normalize its relations with the international financial community.

The negotiations also seek to convince the IMF to accept payments linked to Peru's ability to pay.

Second Vice President Luis Alva Castro said that the IMF has adopted a "flexible" attitude. He added that the IMF has agreed to the Peruvian proposal—made in July 1985—to make payments linked to its ability to pay, in view of the Peruvian economic crisis, worsened by terrorist actions.

In 1985, Peruvian President Alan Garcia decided to suspend payments to the IMF and to assign only 10 percent of the revenue from exports to honor the foreign debt.

The statement of the two vice presidents today contradicts a report made in Lima last week that the Peruvian Government would resume payments to the IMF.

They confirmed that former Minister Abel Salinas is negotiating the Peruvian foreign debt.

In September, IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus said that the IMF does not like granting bridge loans.

Alva Castro, American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA) presidential candidate, said that his country wants the solidarity of the industrialized countries to be able to normalize its relations with the IMF, the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)—to whom Peru owes $1.64 billion.

This debt, and the fact that the IMF and World Bank declared Peru ineligible for new loans, has prevented the country from obtaining the credits needed to finance development programs. This means that these programs cannot be implemented for lack of funds.

Sanchez—who is the APRA vice presidential candidate—and Alva Castro today met with IDB Chairman Enrique Iglesias. On 7 December, they will be received by their U.S. counterpart Dan Quayle to discuss U.S. aid proposals, the antiterrorist fight, and drug trafficking.

Sanchez said that Peru will ask for more U.S. military assistance to help fight the guerrilla movement. He

added, however, that in view of what has occurred in Bolivia [not further specified], Peru will not accept any interference in its domestic affairs.

Sanchez denied rumors that the USSR supports the Maoist Shining Path guerrilla group, and said that there is no evidence that Cuba supports them, either.

Venezuela

Perez Says Intervention Could Ruin Summit

PA0812020789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2317 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Caracas, 7 Dec (DPA)—Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez predicted a serious crisis on the continent if a solution for the Central American conflict is not found. He appealed to "the foreign powers" to halt their intervention in the subregion.

In a news conference today broadcast over national television, Perez predicted that the coming Central American presidents summit in San Jose will fail if what he described as "foreign powers" do not halt military and financial support to the various factions fighting in the agitated region.

The Costa Rican, Nicaraguan, Guatemalan, Salvadoran, and Honduran presidents will meet in San Jose shortly to find a solution to the Salvadoran conflict and reactivate the Esquipulas II and Tela pacification accords.

"If the foreign powers, be they the United States, Cuba, the Soviet Union, or whatever, persist on disrupting direct analysis and preventing friendly agreement between the Central American presidents, this summit will amount to nothing," Perez pointed out.

Perez said that the recent Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] offensive in El Salvador seriously interfered with the regional pacification process. He requested the Salvadoran Government clarify the death of six Jesuits murdered by the death squads.

"There is no doubt that the Salvadoran crisis occurred at an untimely moment, when things were going so well. The responsibility for this, however, rests heavily with the FMLN and those who gave arms to the rebels so they could carry out so major a military operation," he said. He added, however, that "the Salvadoran Government is accountable for what happened to the six Jesuits who were murdered in a lowly and wicked manner. This must be clarified also," he said.

The Venezuelan president, who offered to mediate in the Salvadoran conflict, said he reported to the summit's host Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, the contents of a letter that the FMLN sent to Perez, in which the organization proposes a cease-fire with international verification.

Perez asked that the Salvadoran guerrillas be more flexible because "the fate of all of Latin America is at stake."

Referring directly to the San Jose summit—he said he was instrumental in choosing Costa Rica as site for the meeting—Perez assumed an "optimistic yet concerned" stance with regard to the meeting's results.

He finally said: "If the Central American presidents are left alone, this San Jose summit will make things conform to Esquipulas II and Tela particularly if they know that none of them will be backed with arms or money by any one power."

Suriname

Bouterse: Brunswijk Not Responsible for Attack

FL0712124189 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Army Commander Desi Bouterse has stood up for rebel leader Ronny Brunswijk. Colonel Bouterse says he does not believe rebel leader Ronny Brunswijk was responsible for an attack earlier this week in which seven soldiers were killed.

He spoke in a news conference yesterday saying the attack was designed, in his words, to derail his peace talks with Mr Brunswijk. The army commander blamed what he called foreign and domestic interests for hiring mercenaries to carry out an attack on an army base.

Shots Fired Into Home of Rights Activist Rensch

FL0712125589 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 7 Dec 89

[Text] Surinamese police are investigating an attempt to kill prominent human rights activist Stanley Rensch. The assassination attempt was made early yesterday. Mr Rensch says shots were fired into his home. The human rights activist blames the attempt on unnamed groups with ties to the country's military leadership. He also charges that Colonel Bouterse accused him of leading the attack on the military base.